



Arab villagers saved from eviction

By DAVID RUDGE

TAMRA. — Thousands of residents of this predominantly Moslem village spent the weekend celebrating what they described as a "victory for common sense and humanitarianism" after an agreement which has lifted the threat of eviction that had been hanging over them "like the sword of Damocles".

The accord, hammered out between the residents, the Israel Lands Administration and the Agriculture Ministry, will enable the families to continue living in the place which has been home for many of them for over 30 years.

The saga of the "Tamra refugees" dates back to the War of Independence, when residents of five neighbouring villages fled their homes, never to return. Instead, after the fighting died down, they moved to Tamra, where they established what was later to become known in the region as "Tin Shack City".

In 1956, according to the families and their descendants, they were given the go-ahead by the military administration to construct permanent housing.

They purchased plots from local Arab land-owners, and within a few years a new residential quarter, today comprising more than 700 homes, had been added to Tamra.

But last year the Lands Administration declared that the houses had been put up illegally. The purchase contracts held by the residents were worthless, according to the ILA, because the land belonged to the state.

The 8,000 inhabitants were told they would have to leave their homes or pay for the plots at prices of up to \$50,000. They refused both suggestions.

Legal proceedings were instituted by both sides, and the residents established an action committee under the slogan "We won't be turned into refugees a second time."

The situation remained deadlocked until the intervention of Labour MK Abdul Wahab Darawshe, who raised the issue in the Knesset five months ago.

His suggested compromise was accepted in principle, leaving the Agriculture Ministry and ILA officials to complete the details.

Last week Agriculture Minister Arye Nehamkin arrived in the village to outline the terms of the agreement to the families, who commented on the back page.

Jordan's PM to Cairo

Jordan Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i is going to Cairo today for talks with President Mubarak. Reports from Egypt indicated that the talks would be a continuation of last week's discussions between Mubarak and King Hussein on Jordan's role in the Middle East peace process.

Top Jordanian and PLO officials met recently in an Arab capital to discuss resumption of coordination between them, according to the Egyptian *Al-Mussawar*, weekly. *Al-Mussawar* said Jordan is interested in coordinating its aid programme for the West Bank with the PLO.

Sri Lanka appeals for funds to send sick child to Israel

COLOMBO. — The Sri Lanka government has appealed for donations to send a child suffering from a chronic blood disease to Israel.

The island's public trustee, Upasena Yapa, said the parents of the child, Tharindu Ganagoda, cannot afford the \$34,000 needed to send him to Professor Eliezer Rachmilewitz of Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem for treatment.

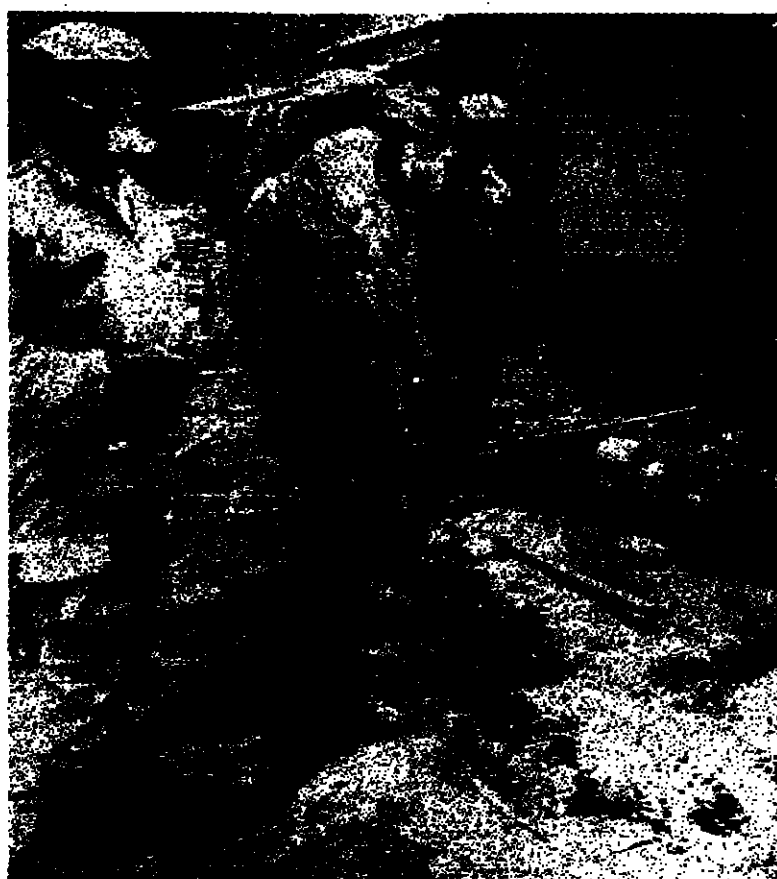
He said Rachmilewitz is possibly the only doctor in the world who can treat the child, who suffers from *beta thalassemia major*.

The appeal has been given wide publicity in the local media.

Since Sri Lanka allowed an Israeli interest section office to function in Colombo, the island nation has increasingly turned to Israel for specialized assistance. This included the fitting of artificial limbs to soldiers injured while fighting the Tamil-backed insurgency and agricultural experts to grow food crops in dry areas of the island.

(Sri Lanka News Service)

Notice
We apologize to those of our readers in the Central Region who did not receive their Friday paper due to the breakdown of our vehicles.
Circulation Dept., The Jerusalem Post



Cameroonian soldiers (left) on Friday help bury victims of last week's volcanic gas disaster. On right, survivors receive food at an aid-distribution station in the region of the deadly Lake Nyos. (See story below.) (AFP telephotos)

Boy, 15, stabbed to death at Tel Aviv disco

By YORAM GAZIT

For the Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV. — A 15-year-old was stabbed to death in the early hours on Saturday during a brawl between two youth gangs outside a Tel Aviv discotheque.

Gil Elazarov of Rehov Trumpeldor in Bat Yam was stabbed in the chest and died in Ichilov Hospital. A 17-year-old youth from Tel Aviv was stabbed in his hand and stomach and is in a fair condition and a 16-year-old Bat Yam youth was stabbed in the shoulder but did not need hospital treatment.

Four 14-16-year-old youths and two 20-year-old men, all from Tel Aviv, were arrested in connection with the stabbings.

The brawl started at about 2 a.m. inside the Dan Theatre discotheque on Rehov Hayarkon and continued outside.

Police said last night that they were considering closing the discotheque for 30 days.

One of the club owners, Itzik Avneri, said he would contest closure by legal means.

One of his security staff had removed the brawling youths from the dance floor, he said, and the stabbing had taken place 100 metres from the club.

School term to open with road safety lesson

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Schools throughout the country will open tomorrow with a lesson on road safety, according to guidelines issued by the Education Ministry.

Teachers are to discuss with their pupils how to get to school safely, emphasizing that they should keep to sidewalks, and use crosswalks.

Kindergarten and first-grade teachers are advised to take children to the streets that lead to their school, and practise with them the proper way to cross.

Education Ministry director-general Eliezer Shmueli stressed that road-safety education should

continue throughout the year, from kindergarten to 12th grade.

In 1985, 53 children were killed in road accidents and 2,387 were injured, 587 seriously.

Minister Yitzhak Navon announced that he would meet with Transport Minister Haim Corfu soon to plan a joint campaign to prevent road accidents.

In Ashkelon, Mayor Eli Dayan blamed the poor condition of the Ashdod-Ashkelon road for the increase in accidents in the area. In the 24-hours from Thursday night, one man was killed and 11 were injured in the Lachish district.

Swiss may head Taba arbitrators

Jerusalem Post Staff

GENEVA. — Former Swiss President Pierre Graber has been elected chairman of an international arbitration panel to resolve the dispute between Israel and Egypt over Taba, the *Journal de Geneve* newspaper said on Friday.

The arbitration panel is to comprise five people — one each from Egypt and Israel, who have already been nominated, and three independent legal experts.

Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche and the ministry's legal adviser, Robbie Sabel, are due to return to Cairo this morning for another round of talks

to select the three international arbitrators in the Taba dispute.

Observers in Jerusalem believe that the three will be chosen this week. The aerial photography and demarcations of the conflicting claims in the disputed zones in Taba and along the border north of Taba will also be completed, facilitating the signature of the arbitration compromise by the end of the week.

American naval aircraft, for an undisclosed reason, did not begin the scheduled search over the weekend for the Israeli submarine *Dakar*, lost off Alexandria in 1968 with 69 men aboard.

Opposition fears Libyan retaliation

Hassan scraps Gaddafi treaty

RABAT (Reuter). — Opposition politicians yesterday expressed fears that Libya might expel Moroccan workers and resume support for guerrillas in the Western Sahara in reprisal for King Hassan's abrogation of his 1984 union treaty with Tripoli.

The politicians, who declined to be identified, said King Hassan's decision to tear up the State Union treaty he signed with Colonel Muammar Gaddafi two years ago might touch off fierce Libyan retaliation.

In a broadcast Friday night, the king said he had been forced to abrogate the treaty after Gaddafi and Syrian President Hafez Assad issued a statement denouncing last month's visit to Morocco by Prime Minister Peres.

"When one dares to accuse us of high treason... Morocco cannot fail to be angered," the monarch said in his unscheduled broadcast.

The main advantage Morocco gained from the treaty was that Gaddafi agreed to stop financing and arming Polisario guerrillas fighting for control of the Western Sahara since 1976 with the support of Algeria.

Diplomats said this had enabled Moroccan troops to entrench themselves in the former Spanish colony and build defence lines along the Algerian border to lock the guerrillas out of the disputed territory.

Hassan's announcement that he was scrapping the treaty did not surprise either Morocco's friends or foes, diplomats here said.

In Washington the news was welcomed because the Americans were irritated by the pact, between their closest friend and worst enemy in the Arab world.

The joint statement issued in Tripoli and Damascus last Wednesday branded the Peres visit to Morocco, as "an act of treason" by Hassan, and a "violation of the Arab consensus".

(Continued on back page)

Tripoli 'plotting to seize troops'

U.S. spells out plans to strike against Libya

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent and agencies

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. has warned that it could attack Libya with long-range bombers and missiles if that country resumed any terrorist actions against Americans. At the same time, the Reagan administration is sending veteran envoy Vernon Walters to Europe today to press its allies to take economic sanctions against Libya. The envoy will specify the kind of terror actions Washington believes the regime of Col. Muammar Gaddafi is preparing.

U.S. Nato commander Gen. Bernard Rogers on Friday warned the Libyan leader that the U.S. could use long-range B-52 bombers or submarine-based missiles to attack Libya if it carried out terror acts against Americans.

"We've got the B-52s in the United States. He has to know that he is subject to that kind of treatment," Rogers told reporters, referring to Gaddafi as a "bastard."

U.S. officials said last Monday they had reports that Gaddafi is plotting attacks on U.S. targets in Europe, and the White House warned that U.S. forces would retaliate appropriately.

A U.S. television network said Friday night that there was one intelligence report that terrorists plan to hijack a busload of American servicemen in Europe, kill any officers aboard and hold the rest hostage.

NBC News said other intelligence reports in the past 10 days said a cruise ship would be hijacked in the Mediterranean and that 50 terror attack teams were being sent to Europe and the U.S.

But it said the reports did not implicate Gaddafi in the planned attacks and said much of the information was from what it called "untested sources."

Rogers said that the U.S. does not

necessarily have to use only fighter aircraft flying at low levels which would be vulnerable to Libya's Soviet-supplied SAM air-defence system. The U.S. used such jets in its attack on Libya last April.

Rogers said there was "credible" evidence that Gaddafi was about to unleash terrorists. He did not elaborate on that evidence.

"If you want to show Gaddafi that he's not immune to any of the resources of the United States," he said, "put the B-52s over some targets out of North Dakota or out of Maine."

"I think Gaddafi has to understand [that] if he involves [himself] in sensational terrorist acts against U.S. personnel or facilities and his fingerprints are found on that, he's likely to suffer similar type of punishment as he did on the 15th of April," he said.

Rogers was in charge of the April bombing of Libya. One U.S. plane was lost in that mission. Its pilot and navigator were killed.

U.S. officials meanwhile said Walters would fly first to London carrying what they called fresh evidence that Gaddafi has been plotting new acts of anti-American violence.

"It's time to put new pressure on our allies to deal with Gaddafi by imposing real economic sanctions," one official said.

The U.S. imposed economic sanctions on Libya last January and ordered all U.S. companies out of the country. It was upset when its European allies did not follow suit.

The officials said that Washington was pleased by European actions, taken after the April bombing, in ejecting dozens of Libyan diplomats.

But they said the moves were not enough and the time had come to press again for sanctions inevitably involving oil, Libya's staple export.

They said it was most likely Walters would be pressing for an end to European imports of Libyan crude oil.

Washington has refused to make (Continued on back page)

Astronaut held in quest for Noah's Ark

ERZURUM, Turkey (AP). — Former U.S. astronaut James Irwin told reporters yesterday that he had been put under house arrest by the Turkish authorities at a hotel here, pending an investigation into allegations that he engaged in espionage while searching for Noah's Ark.

Irwin denied the charge, and said that seven others, five American members of his team and two Dutch television crewmen, had also been detained.

The independent Hurriyet news agency, quoting unnamed officials, said "There were some allegations against James Irwin that he used the search for Noah's

Ark as a cover of spying."

On Thursday, Irwin and a two-member Dutch television crew flew over Mount Ararat and filmed the area. Officials said they may have filmed sensitive military areas along Turkey's border with Iran and the Soviet Union. Mount Ararat is adjacent to the Soviet and Iranian borders.

Asked if they had permission for the flight, Irwin replied, "Yes we had. Without that, how could we get clearance to fly?" He had publicly announced his intention to scout out the area by plane earlier in the week.

According to half-Jew who recently escaped:

Albanian Jews face campaign of anti-Semitism

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Jews in Albania are victims of a continuous official and unofficial campaign of anti-Semitism, according to a half-Jewish Albanian who escaped to Greece recently.

In an interview published in *The New York Times*, Samuel Matathia said that he and two other Albanians walked and crawled through the mountains for 18 hours before reaching safety in Greece.

Matathia said his mother was Greek Orthodox but his father always taught him to think of himself as a Jew and honour the traditions of Judaism. He said he knew no prayers, nor had he ever seen a Jewish text or heard a Hebrew word.

Matathia, a 31-year-old former canteen employee from the Adriatic

coastal town of Valona, said Jews were usually referred to by the old Turkish term "cifut," which a Turkish dictionary defines as a cunning, malicious and duplicitous Jew.

He said Jews were habitually discriminated against in employment, education and housing. In addition to official government persecution, there was also a campaign of anti-Semitism by ordinary Albanians.

He himself had done the two years obligatory army stint but many other Jews had been sent to do forced labour instead.

He said the only Jewish communal practice carried out in his town and in Albania's capital, Tirana, were secret gatherings at which traditional Sephardic Jewish sweets were eaten in memory of the dead.

"I want to be called a Jew because of my father and because I consider

it a great honour to be a Jew," Matathia said.

He thought there were about 500 Jews in Valona and 2,000 to 2,500 in all of Albania, but emphasized that he could not be sure. The Encyclopedia Judaica gives a 1971 estimate of approximately 200 Jews in Albania.

Matathia said he had not decided whether to seek permanent asylum in Greece, the U.S. or Israel. He thought a half-sister, Toula Daskali, who escaped from Albania with her mother at the end of the World War II, was living in Florida.

When told by *The Times* reporter that under rabbinical law he would not be regarded as a Jew in Israel, Matathia said, without sarcasm: "I haven't had the honour to know about such things."

More explosions feared in Cameroon

BAMENDA, Cameroon (Reuter). — Two experts on volcanoes said Friday that further explosions of toxic gas were possible in northwest Cameroon following the disaster last week which killed more than 1,700 people.

France's leading volcanologist, Haroun Tazieff, who visited the stricken area on Thursday, said gas could escape from the polluted lake Nyos at any time. An Italian expert said the lake's water temperature was dangerously high.

"Around 100 metres of the lake is

acting as a stopper from which gas can escape at any moment," Tazieff told reporters in the provincial capital, Bamenda.

Italian specialist Giorgio Marinelli echoed his warning. "The risk of a gas emission still exists. The lake is hot and its current temperature is 30 degrees, whereas it is normally 20."

Volcanic experts meanwhile tried to establish the precise cause of the eruption.

The disaster is said to have wiped out most of the area's animal life. Health officials have warned of

the risk of an epidemic unless the carcasses are burned or buried promptly.

Cameroonian officials and French experts, flown to the area, have been busy organizing the burning of carcasses scattered around the lush hills of this isolated region close to the frontier with Nigeria.

The director of Cameroon's public health service told reporters at the weekend that the medical situation was now under control.

"We are now at ease a little," he said. (Related story, page 3)

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	30.8.86	31.8.86	1.9.86	2.9.86
AMSTERDAM	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
BRUSSELS	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
FRANKFURT	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
GENEVA	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
LONDON	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
MUNICH	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
PARIS	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
ROME	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
ST. PAUL	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
TORONTO	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18
ZURICH	10-18	11-16	12-18	13-18

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	28	13-28	20	20
Golan	28	18-30	30	30
Nahariya	28	20-31	31	31
Safed	28	16-28	29	29
Haifa Port	43	21-35	35	35
Tiberias	43	18-33	33	33
Nazareth	43	18-33	33	33
Afula	43	18-33	33	33
Shomron	43	18-33	33	33
Tel Aviv	61	18-29	30	30
B-G Airport	43	20-31	31	31
Jericho	72	21-37	35	35
Beer Sheva	43	22-29	30	30
Eilat	32	17-34	33	33

ARRIVALS

Mr. Victor Carter, honorary chairman of the board of governors of Tel Aviv University, and Mrs. Carter.

Stuart Young, head of BBC, dies at 52

LONDON (Reuters). - Stuart Young, chairman of the BBC for the past three years, died on Friday after a long illness, aged 52.

Young was an active member of a number of Jewish organizations, once serving as appeals treasurer of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, and was a governor and vice-chancellor of Tel Aviv University. His brother, Lord Young, is Britain's minister of employment.

Dan Carmel again becomes kosher

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. - The rabbinate on Friday returned the *kashrut* certificate to the Dan Carmel Hotel following an agreement with the management on the issue of Sabbath observance at Haifa's only five-star hotel.

The rabbinate had suspended the certificate last Sunday after a fashion show and interview-programme had been held in the hotel dining room the preceding Friday night despite objections by the rabbinate.

Kashrut supervisors were maintained in the hotel during the suspension period.

Chief Rabbi She'ar-Yashuv Cohen told *The Jerusalem Post* that the "misunderstanding" had been resolved after the hotel management agreed to the principle that *kashrut* implied public Sabbath observance.

Both sides had been "flexible," and it had been agreed that the Dan could continue Friday night interviews, but without fashion shows and music. Tickets would be sold before the start of the Sabbath.

It is learned that the management also agreed to stop piping background music in the hotel on the Sabbath and the rabbinate raised no objection on its continuing playing dance music in the bar on Friday nights, agreeing to consider the bar "a separate entity."

Both sides stressed that the negotiations had been marked by "goodwill and understanding."

Yosef Ben-Aharon denies GSS role

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Yosef Ben-Aharon, Assistant Director-General of the Foreign Ministry and a close confidant of Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that while serving in the Prime Minister's Office during Shamir's premiership, he had not had any dealings whatsoever with matters concerning the General Security Service. The GSS was the sole preserve of the prime minister and on occasion also of his military aide.

The report in the "Public Faces" column, in *The Jerusalem Post* of August 29, claiming that Ben-Aharon may have kept Shamir in the dark on matters relating to the GSS affair, was therefore unfounded.

Woman charged with stealing 59 snakes

HAIFA (Itim). - A woman was alleged in the Haifa magistrate's court on Friday to have tried to take 59 snakes out of the country illegally.

According to the Nature Reserves Authority, Rachel Glauberman was entrusted with taking 11 snakes to the U.S. on behalf of the zoological institute in Haifa's Gan Ha'em. She was reportedly detained at the airport with 70 of the reptiles in her possession.

Treasury wants 130 dismissals to reduce the education budget

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter

The Treasury wants the Education Ministry to dismiss some 130 employees and to reduce its allocations to cultural institutions as a way of cutting \$9 million from the education budget.

In addition, the Finance Ministry wants the universities to cut their budgets by \$10 million by dismissing 1,000 administrative employees and by closing the medical school at Haifa University.

The Treasury's demands follow the cabinet's approval earlier this month of a 3.9 per cent cut in the budget of all civilian ministries. While the Finance and Education Ministries agree that 3 per cent of this cut, some \$28 million, will be implemented by slashing the budgetary reserve, the remaining 0.9 per cent, or \$9 m., must still be eliminated.

Finance Minister Nissim and Education Minister Navon agreed on Friday that a joint team of officials would try to prepare within a week a common proposal on implementing the cut.

Navon insisted during his meeting

with Nissim that he did not want to reduce the allocation to cultural institutions. But according to Treasury officials, there is no way this could be avoided.

The sources said the Treasury would stress that the Education Ministry should also implement a previously approved reduction of \$12 million, which it had committed itself to by cutting 60,000 teaching hours during the school year.

Navon told Nissim that Prime Minister Peres had promised the heads of the universities that their budgets would not be slashed again.

But according to the Treasury sources, they are not bound by such a promise. "If the premier promised such thing let him find \$10 million," they said.

The heads of the universities are to meet tomorrow to declare to what extent they are prepared to reduce the number of students. The university heads have stressed that not only can they not implement the cut without reducing the number of their students, but they need some \$50 million beyond their budget allocations.

However, the Treasury sources

said the ministry believed the slash could be executed by dismissing the 1,000 administrative workers, the Haifa medical school closure, and other economy measures without reducing enrolment.

Lea Levavi adds:

Navon told Israel Radio on Friday evening that the government had never seriously discussed and set national priorities. "You could say cynically that every minister would claim his ministry should be at the top of the ladder. But I think there are logical ways to decide what is more or less important."

Cuts in university budgets, he said, can destroy Israel's advantage in defence and in industry. He related the case of a well-known Israeli scientist whose article was rejected by a scientific journal because the editors felt the equipment used in the research was out of date. "Can we allow ourselves to fall behind like that? Researchers who cannot do their work here will go somewhere else, and then we'll try to get them back with promises of customs exemption on a vacuum cleaner or electric iron."

Peres to Shultz: Reform plans prepared

Post Economic Reporter

A team of officials from the Treasury and the Prime Minister's Office is currently preparing proposals for economic reforms that will encourage growth, Prime Minister Peres said in a letter to the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

The premier's letter is a response to a letter sent by Shultz several weeks ago urging Peres to cut taxes, reduce government involvement in the capital market and sell government corporations. In his reply, Peres said such proposals were in full

agreement with the economic thinking of the Israeli government.

The premier added that the government would continue its fight to maintain stability and low inflation rates by cutting the budget and preventing wage increases.

Government sources said that Peres would hold extensive discussions on economic matters with the American administration, during his visit to the U.S. next month. They said it was likely that agreement would be reached on the transfer of \$375 million, the last instalment of the \$1.5

billion emergency aid package the U.S. promised Israel in 1985.

The sources said the team of experts referred to by Peres in his letter, included most of the officials and experts who prepared the economic stabilization plan in 1985. They added that Peres would tell the Americans that reform in the capital market was currently underway, but that the reform of the tax system would have to wait. Tax reform would embrace only taxes on corporations, and not cover personal tax rates.

Histadrut to discuss nurses issue

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The hospital nurses' threat to launch a total strike this week will be discussed by the Histadrut's executive committee this morning and by a special Knesset session on Wednesday.

Eleven thousand hospital nurses are involved, and their representatives say they will leave their post during this week unless employers begin negotiations.

Casualty wards will not be abandoned abruptly.

To avoid being forestalled by back-to-work orders, the nurses have not disclosed when they intend to begin the strike. However, they will not walk out before Tuesday, the end of their 10-day ultimatum for the beginning of negotiations.

One of the strike leaders, Bella Suffrin of the Sheba Hospital, said yesterday that the nurse's meeting with Histadrut trade union chairman Haim Haberfeld last Thursday had been "very unpleasant." The Histadrut was willing to support only a small part of the nurses' demands.

During the meeting, said Suffrin, Haberfeld said that if the nurses were not more flexible in their demands, the Histadrut would sign the work agreement on their behalf.

If the Histadrut did that, said Suffrin, the hospital nurses would leave the labour union.

Nissim angry over 'tax raid' on flea market

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim

reacted angrily last night to the news that income tax inspectors had gone to the controversial Kibbutz Nir Eliahu flea market yesterday, the Treasury spokesman said.

The spokesman added that Nissim had demanded an explanation from Income Tax Commissioner Yair Rabinowitz and had insisted that this not happen again.

The flea market was open for business yesterday despite the controversy and accusations by religious politicians that it was a desecration of the Sabbath.

The Knesset will hold a special session this week to discuss the operation of the flea market on Saturdays. Yesterday the income tax inspectors demanded that the merchants at the market who lease stalls from the kibbutz prove they have a tax file.

The organizers declared that in future they would ensure that only tax-registered merchants took part in the market.

Suissa hopes for vindication

By BARBARA AMOYAL

For The Jerusalem Post

Prisons Chief Rafi Suissa plans to submit a statement he hopes will clear him of allegations of misconduct. Suissa will present the document to Police Minister Bar-Lev at a standard weekly meeting on Tuesday.

Suissa has studied the report of Police Ministry Comptroller General Avraham (res.) Adan on alleged misconduct. He hopes to "fully rebut" Adan's findings to Bar-Lev. Police Ministry Director-General Gad Aviner and other senior ministry officials.

Talks due today on future of E. J'lem power company

By JOEL GREENBERG

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The lawyer for the debt-ridden Jerusalem District Electricity Company, Shlomo Toussia-Cohen, is to meet today with Energy Minister Moshe Shalal to resume the stalled talks on the company's future.

The meeting will be the first between Shalal and company representatives since court bailiffs raided the company's offices earlier this month and seized files as part of an attachment order on the company's assets.

The files were later returned by order of the Jerusalem chief court executor.

The attachment order was obtained by the Israel Electric Corporation (IEC), which is owed NIS 20 million by the JDEC.

Energy Ministry sources said a recent JDEC offer to relinquish its

right to supply power to Jerusalem's Ramot Eshkol and East Talpote neighbourhoods had been rejected, partly because it was impracticable to divide the power supply across the Green Line between the Arab and Israeli companies.

Israel Electric Corporation workers have in recent weeks been compiling lists of consumers in East Talpote in preparation for a possible takeover of the service, according to residents of the area.

Energy Ministry sources said the JDEC had failed to carry out its promise to produce a letter of financial support from Jordan. Last week, Jordan's Minister of Occupied Territories, Marwan Doudin, said his government had set up a committee to draw up a plan to rescue the company.

Eban scores friends for missing peace opportunity

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HERZLIYA. - ABA Eban has criticized Israel's friends and neighbours for having missed an opportunity during the past two years to further the peace process while Israel's government was headed by a Labour prime minister.

Addressing the members of the Swedish Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee on Thursday night at a dinner hosted by Swedish Ambassador Sven Hirdman, the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee said Israel's friends and neighbours had failed to perceive the marked change in policy, content and style by a government in which the Labour Party was again holding key policy positions.

This applied equally to Israel's friends in Europe and in the U.S. as well as to Egypt, Jordan and our Palestinian neighbours, Eban said.

Although the past two years had

witnessed a number of eventual and dramatic achievements initiated by Israel's present government, the changes could have been more revolutionary had these initiatives been reciprocated by Israel's neighbours to the east and to the south, with the support of Europe and America, said Mr Eban.

The nine members of the Swedish Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee left on Friday for Amman across the Allenby Bridge following a three-day visit here - the first such visit to Israel - during which they met with Prime Minister Peres, Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, and with senior IDF officers.

The group, headed by its chairman, Stig Alemyr, Social Democratic MP, and its vice chairman, Karin Soeder, Centre Party MP, will also visit Egypt and Ethiopia during its present tour.

Peres to visit Canada in mid-September

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. - Prime Minister Shimon Peres's upcoming visit to the United States will include a visit to Canada. Peres is due to meet Prime Minister Mulroney for talks on September 17-18.

The visit to Ottawa and Montreal will follow Peres's meeting at the White House tentatively scheduled for September 15.

A number of other Israeli ministers are to visit the U.S. soon. Defence Minister Rabin is due to meet with Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger at the Pentagon on September 10-12.

Finance Minister Moshe Nissim is also due in Washington next month, where he will attend the annual meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Nissim is expected to meet with Secretary of State George Shultz while he is in Washington.

Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir will be in New York next month to attend the opening session of the United Nations.



The graves of Yitzhak Ben-Zvi, Israel's second president, and his wife, were discovered vandalized on Friday morning at the Har Hamenuhot cemetery in Jerusalem. The graffiti warns that the "grave robbing" at Tel Haror must stop and is signed by Keshet, an extremist ultra-Orthodox group. The Tel Haror archaeological dig in the Negev has angered the ultra-Orthodox who claim that Jews are buried there. Ten days ago the graves of Theodor Herzl, Golda Meir and Zalman Shazar were similarly desecrated. (Menahem Kahana)

IN BRIEF

Reservist hitch-hiker attacked near Nablus

By JOEL GREENBERG

An IDF reservist hitch-hiking near Nablus was attacked and slightly wounded by two Arabs on Friday night, the IDF spokesman said yesterday.

The reservist had walked from the city to the nearby Beit Furik intersection, and was attacked by two men who drove up in a car. The soldier fought off his attackers, and was later taken to hospital, the spokesman said. Troops closed off and searched the area.

The reservist had apparently violated IDF orders, which forbid soldiers to hitch-hike alone at night in the territories.

Thief only wanted to help his family

HAIFA (Itim). - A youth suspected of carrying out a series of thefts from vehicles in the Bat Galim area told the Haifa Magistrate's Court on Friday that he had simply wanted to help his family.

Twenty-year-old Mordechai Ben-Atar admitted to stealing three radio-tapes and other articles "because his father was too ill to work." The judge released him on bail.

Life term for murder

TEL AVIV (Itim). - The Tel Aviv District Court on Friday sentenced 30-year-old Yitzhak Aljim of Jaffa to life imprisonment for the murder, four years ago, of Orly Biton, then aged 20.

A second man, Rahamin Reifler, was sentenced earlier, also to life imprisonment.

Both men led police to the sands of Rishon LeZion, where they said they had buried the body, but it was never found.

Jerusalem-Hermon hike

KATZRIN (Itim). - A group of Jerusalem high-school pupils yesterday completed a two-week long hike from the capital to the Hermon.

The youths, members of the Society for the Protection of Nature, covered a distance of some 500kms. Only one of the 10 who started off dropped out.

Teachers suspected of molesting their pupils

TEL AVIV (Itim). - A sports instructor at an elementary school in Jaffa and an English teacher from Holon were both charged with molesting pupils on Friday.

Police told a Tel Aviv magistrate that Yosef Rotman, aged 29, of Jaffa, had forced young girls to come to his apartment on six occasions. After molesting them, he threatened them with death if they reported him, it was alleged.

The second suspect, 41-year-old Nasser Motovian, said that he liked children and therefore simply stroked their heads.

Both men were released on bail. The magistrate also ordered Rotman's passport confiscated.

Swazi stop-over viewed for S. Africa flights

By ROY ISACOWITZ

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. - El Al is exploring the possibility of using Swaziland as a refuelling stop on its flights to and from South Africa, according to sources in the aviation industry.

The search for a new stop-over has been precipitated by the threat of black African countries to close their airspace to aircraft flying to South Africa. The threat also poses problems for several European airlines.

At present, El Al planes en route to South Africa stop in Nairobi. El Al has reportedly been informed that Kenya is resuming the airlines' use of Nairobi as a stopover point.

El Al planes could in fact fly to Johannesburg without refuelling, the sources said. The advantage of Nairobi is that it allows El Al crews to file a takeoff and destination point other than South Africa while flying

over other black African countries.

By specifying Swaziland as its takeoff and destination point, El Al would, it is believed, be able to continue using its flight path over black Africa.

The drawback is that El Al would have to open a new line to Nairobi, which is a well-travelled route in season but maintaining a service would entail significant losses during the off-season.

South African Airways has no intention of cancelling its Johannesburg-Tel Aviv flights, as reported erroneously in the press last week, the company's manager said. However, SAA is changing the route it flies to Tel Aviv.

Starting next month, SAA will fly to Tel Aviv via Zurich, instead of through Lisbon and Rome, as at present. The change should cut some two hours off flying time.

Arab League launches new drive for ME conference

WASHINGTON (Reuters). - The Arab League has launched a diplomatic campaign for a UN sponsored conference to be called to discuss a Middle East peace agreement.

The league's envoy to the U.S., Clovis Makoud, told reporters yesterday that the campaign would be given momentum at the meeting of the non-aligned movement in Hare this week and would then be concentrated on the UN General Assembly session next month.

He said that persuading the U.S. of the need for an international conference would be the major problem because of Washington's "obsession with Libya, the disinclination of the secretary of state (George Shultz) to deal intensively with the problems of the Middle East," and America's dogged support of Israel.

"The U.S. is still a prisoner of indecision on this issue, fluctuating between its strategic relationship with Israel and the global priority of achieving détente (with Moscow)."

"Commitment to a UN-sponsored international conference would preempt headline approaches in the Middle East and put us back into expectation of a breakthrough that we have not had for a long time."

Makoud said that the problem of Libya was really marginal and was being used by the Reagan administration to divert attention from the basic regional issues.

Washington has opposed convening an international peace conference on the Middle East, arguing that that would give the Soviet Union a role it did not merit because of its "unconstructive attitude to regional peace."

Samaritans clash with neighbours

HOLON (Itim). - Relations between the Samaritan community here and residents of the Ne'ot Yehudit neighbourhood are deteriorating and police have been called in several times in recent weeks to settle disputes.

Neighbours claim that the noise from Samaritan celebrations is disruptive, and the Samaritans say that they are disturbed by the din of radios and other electronic equipment.

In recent weeks the situation has been aggravated by a spate of Samaritan weddings, which are week-long celebrations. On Shabbat, the women line up to greet the bride, blowing horns and singing songs.

The Samaritan newspaper asks what will happen when soccer is broadcast on Shabbat. "They watch movies until 3 a.m., and when they go to sleep we get up to pray. What will be?"

IDF troops clash with terrorists

By MENAHEM HOROWITZ

METULLA. - IDF troops were fired on at the weekend in the northern section of the security zone. No one was injured.

The attack was carried out by a

band of terrorists who opened fire when they saw Israeli troops.

The IDF men returned fire and searched the area. They found storage shelters with Kalashnikov rifles, satchel charges and mortar shells.

We mourn the death of our beloved

HELEN SILLIMAN ZANGER

The funeral will take place at 12:30 on Monday, September 1, at the cemetery in Moshav Avihayil.

Junie Zanger
The family and friends in Israel and the United States.
Shiva at the home of the deceased at Moshav Avihayil.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of

LILI LANDAU
(née Baum)

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, August 31, 1986, Av 26, 5746, at 2:30 p.m. at Kfar Samir cemetery.

We shall meet at the main entrance.

The bereaved:

Her husband: Gad (Gustav) Landau
Her daughters: Rachel Landau and family
Hannah and Micha Hanani and family
Dorit and Yuval Yerushalmi and family
and the Baum and Palewicz families

Please refrain from condolence calls.

Our beloved

MIRIAM KOLIN (née Wolfsburg)

has been taken from us.

The funeral will be held today, 26 Av, 31 August, at 1:30 at the Kiryat Shaul cemetery.

The mourners:

The Av

U.S. calls Kremlin step 'significant'

Soviets offer aerial checks of troops

WASHINGTON. — The Soviet Union has offered to open nuclear test sites to American inspectors and to allow some aerial monitoring of its troop movements in Europe.

The twin moves, announced Friday at an unusual embassy news conference in Washington and at a 35-nation conference in Stockholm, drew a mixed response from the U.S.

A State Department spokesman dismissed the on-site proposal as facile. "This is a much more complex situation," the official said, requiring the extensive discussions underway between the two sides.

But he acknowledged the idea of aerial inspection, advanced in the Swedish capital by Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, chief of the Soviet armed forces, was "a significant step toward effective verification."

The spokesman stressed, however, that a number of issues remain unresolved in the talks on ways to reduce tensions between East and West in Europe. These include the size of the forces to be monitored.

The Soviets made their moves in Washington and in Stockholm amid a lag in preparations for the summit meeting that President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev had agreed in principle to hold in Washington this year.

Following up at Friday's press conference, Deputy Ambassador Oleg Sokolov said the Soviets would like to hold a summit crowned with an agreement to halt nuclear weapons tests.

He dismissed as "cynical" the administration's refusal to join the moratorium that Gorbachev has imposed on Soviet tests until January.

The Soviet diplomat said Moscow is ready for "the most wide-ranging, for any form of verification, national or international, including even on-site inspection."

But first, Sokolov said, the U.S. had to agree to ban further tests.

In Stockholm, Akhromeyev said Moscow is willing to allow foreign inspectors to check its military activities from the air as well as from the ground, but stressed that such

checks would have to be carried out in Soviet aircraft, flown by Soviet pilots.

No inspections would be allowed in militarily sensitive "closed areas" but Moscow is willing to agree that such exclusion zones should be kept to a reasonable size and that no notifiable activities should take place in them, he said.

Meanwhile, the Reagan administration said it will not allow U.S. officials to participate in a proposed series of televised debates with high-level Soviet officials.

The proposal by NBC, one of the three major U.S. networks, would have given Secretary of State George Shultz and other officials rare access to Soviet television viewers. The U.S. rejection of the proposal was criticized by Soviet commentators.

A State Department spokesman said Friday the timing of the proposal was considered inappropriate because the U.S. and the Soviet Union are engaged in sensitive negotiations on a number of issues. (AP, Reuters)

Bangladeshi opposition wary of Ershad's army resignation

DACCA (Reuters). — Bangladesh's main opposition groups said Friday that President Hossain Mohammad Ershad's resignation from the army is only a first step towards ending military rule.

"Ershad's departure from active military service will restore some confidence about a return to democracy, but the move is inadequate to guarantee a free and fair presidential election," a spokesman for the Awami League told reporters.

The Defence Ministry announced Thursday night that Ershad had resigned as army chief, a move that enables him to stand in the presidential election expected for the second or third week of October.

Ershad kept the posts of chief martial-law administrator and commander-in-chief of the armed forces, which leaves him firmly in

control of both military and political affairs.

A senior leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party said: "Within or outside the army, Ershad is going to be the country's next elected president."

"Ershad has made himself commander-in-chief of the armed forces by amending the now-suspended constitution so he retains supreme military power," he added.

The Defence Ministry said Ershad had appointed his close confidant Maj.-Gen. Atiqur Rahman, currently army adjutant-general, as the new chief of staff. Rahman's appointment takes effect today.

Ershad, who seized power in a 1982 bloodless coup, has said he will end martial law and restore democracy when an elected president takes office.

U.S. charges provocation in Soviet arrest of newsman

MOSCOW (AP). — The KGB secret police detained an American reporter after a Soviet citizen handed him maps marked "top secret," according to reports from a KGB official and a journalist's wife.

Nicholas Daniloff, Moscow correspondent for U.S. News and World Report, was being held at a KGB facility in eastern Moscow, said a man who identified himself as KGB investigator Sergodeyev.

Asked for comment on Daniloff's detention, U.S. embassy spokesman Jaroslav Verner said, "It's obviously a crude provocation." He said an embassy official is trying to see Daniloff.

Daniloff's wife, Ruth, said her husband told her in a brief telephone conversation that KGB officers were trying to force him to say he is a spy.

Daniloff is being transferred after serving in Moscow for 5½ years.

Asked why she thought her husband had been detained, Ms. Daniloff said she believed there was a direct connection to the case of Genady Zakharov, a Soviet diplomat at the UN detained in New York a week ago on charges he tried to pass secret U.S. documents for \$1,000.

Daniloff's successor, Jeff Trimble, said that the newsman was arrested by eight KGB officers just after meeting a Soviet citizen who had been one of his news sources for the past three years. (AP, AFP)

Eight die in crash of U.S. helicopter in Nato exercise

OSLO (AP). — A U.S. Marine Corps helicopter carrying 21 people crashed into the Atlantic off Norway, killing eight people and injuring five others, military officials said yesterday.

Earlier reports said 13 people were plucked from the sea by other helicopters and rescue boats.

The twin-rotor CH-46 Sea Knight, assigned to the assault ship USS Saipan, crashed Friday about 100 kilometres west of Bodø, Norway, during Nato exercises. No reason has yet been given for the accident.

In Lander, Wyoming a twin-engine plane crashed and burned shortly after takeoff, killing all seven people aboard, while a student pilot died in New York state when two light planes collided.

The Wyoming crash Friday occurred shortly after the plane left Lander for a short flight to Riverton, about 50 km. to the east.

Cameroonians mourn 1,746 victims

YAOUNDE. — Yaounde's normally busy streets were all but deserted yesterday as it mourned more than 1,700 victims of last week's toxic-gas disaster in Cameroon's northwest.

State radio broadcast funeral music interspersed with news bulletins as the capital's population respected the national day of mourning declared Friday by President Paul Biya.

The UN said 1,746 persons had died in the worst incident of its type, and 10,000 people had been moved from seven villages around the now polluted volcanic Lake Nyos from which the gas escaped nine days ago. International aid continued to



East German soldiers repair barrier damaged at Berlin Wall where an East German driving a truck containing his girl friend and child crashed through the barrier in a successful escape to West Berlin.

(AFP telephoto)

E. German trio crash wall in dramatic escape to West

BERLIN (AP). — A truck driver roared through the Berlin Wall's Checkpoint Charlie, dodging East German gunfire and crashing the final steel gate with his girl friend and their baby huddled on the floor, authorities said.

No one was hurt in the escape early Friday, one of the most dramatic dashes through the wall in recent years. It lasted just a few seconds, police said.

"We are thrilled that it all succeeded. But now, our child is so tired and must sleep," the woman said Friday evening at the West Berlin

refugee shelter where they were staying.

The couple, who had lived together in East Berlin, were interviewed Friday by the three Allied powers in the western sector, police said. They cited dissatisfaction with the political situation in Communist East Germany as the reason for their flight.

Police said the man was 32 years old, the woman, 26, and the baby, eight months old, but declined to release their names. They said he was a professional truck driver.

FOREIGN NEWS IN BRIEF

Poles foil hijack attempt on domestic flight

WARSAW (Reuters). — A young man tried to hijack a Polish airliner on a domestic flight from the southwestern city of Wrocław to Warsaw on Thursday but was foiled by security police on board the plane, the official news agency Pap said yesterday.

Preliminary investigations showed that the man was an outpatient at a clinic for the mentally ill, Pap said.

Tunisian bread price stable — just more air inside

TUNIS (Reuters). — Tunisia announced yesterday an effective bread price increase with a difference — the price and the size of loaves will remain the same, but there will be less in them.

The official Tap news agency said the weight of two types of loaves, the long "baguette" loaf and a larger

version, would be reduced as of yesterday by about 15 per cent each.

Although the dimensions of the loaves will not change, they will be baked in such a way there will be less inside the crust, Tap said. This would reduce waste and consumption of starch, which it implied was medically undesirable.

China republishing some of Mao's works

PEKING (Reuters). — China is republishing some of the works of the late chairman Mao Zedong and will put them on sale nationwide on September 9, the 10th anniversary of his death, state-run television said yesterday.

Gandhi sees border accord with China

NEW DELHI (Reuters). — India and China can settle their border dispute peacefully despite recent tensions, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was quoted yesterday as saying.

Speaking in an interview with the Algerian magazine *Algerie Actualite*, he said an alleged intrusion by Chinese troops into Aru-

nachal Pradesh state in north east India is not expected "to lead to military consequences."

Relations between the two countries which fought a border war in 1962, had improved after a series of talks but earlier this year they accused each other of violating the border at Arunachal Pradesh.

Soviets ask Iran allies to help stop Gulf war

AMMAN (AP). — Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuli Vorontsov yesterday urged Iran's allies to intervene with the Teheran government to convince it to accept a compromise in the Gulf war with Iraq, saying the Kremlin failed in a similar bid.

Vorontsov made his statement shortly before leaving for Damascus on his way to Algeria after a 48-hour visit to Amman.

He told reporters his talks with King Hussein and Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i were "fruitful and positive."

He said the meetings focused on the Middle East situation and the six-year-old Gulf war.

"The continuation of bloodshed in the Gulf war will not serve the interests of either the Iranian or Iraqi people," he said. "And we, as neighbours to Iran, cannot stand uncaring

toward this situation."

"We are trying to convince Iran to stop the war, but there has been no response, so we urge other countries to intervene to convince Iran," he added.

Jordan's newspaper hailed the Soviet official's visit. The leading English-language *Jordan Times* said the Amman government was "highly satisfied" with the outcome of Vorontsov's visit.

The daily noted that while discussing the Arab-Israeli conflict with Vorontsov, Jordanian officials felt there has been "a significant change in the Soviet stand toward efforts to solve the Middle East crisis." The paper did not elaborate.

But the Arabic daily *Al-Dustur* said Jordan hopes that the Soviet Union "will work for peace in the Middle East and not leave the initiative in the hands of Washington."

UK bank in East Beirut extensively damaged by TNT

BEIRUT. — Two dynamite sticks exploded at the entrance to a branch of the British Bank of the Middle East in East Beirut's district of Dora before dawn yesterday. Police said there was extensive damage, but no casualties.

The blast wrecked the main gate to the bank on the second floor of a six-story building in Dora and shattered window glass in a 50-metre radius, police said.

An underground group calling itself the Arab Fedayeen Cells claimed responsibility for the bombing, vowing to stage further attacks to "uproot imperialist interests from our land."

The name of the group suggests it is one of the pro-Libyan underground factions that have been claiming small bomb attacks against British and American interests in Lebanon since the April 15 U.S. air strikes on Libya.

Half of Lebanon's cabinet members arrived in Damascus yesterday

for talks with Syrian officials prior to a reconciliation dialogue with Christian leaders to end 11 years of civil war.

The Lebanese leaders, led by Prime Minister Rashid Karame, met with President Hafez Assad, who told them Syria supports any dialogue to end Lebanon's civil war.

Karame, a Sunni Moslem, and two Christian cabinet ministers last week agreed that the whole cabinet form a "dialogue committee" to discuss political reforms aimed at settling the conflict.

The Premier said the committee, due to meet on Tuesday, at the dividing line between east and west Beirut, would seek to proclaim a "long truce."

The latest peace moves break a nine-month political deadlock in Lebanon since the collapse of a Syrian-mediated pact signed by the main Moslem and Christian militias. (AP, Reuters)

UN fact-finding mission to Lebanon

PARIS (Reuters). — The UN will send a fact-finding mission to Lebanon to assess the role of its peace-keeping force there, a senior UN official said Friday.

Undersecretary-General Marrack Goulding, the UN official responsible for peace-keeping, said the mission's task would be to visit southern Lebanon, where the 5,800-strong UN Truce Force in Lebanon (Unfil) is stationed and assess its situation.

Goulding was speaking after meeting several French officials, including Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond and Defence Minister Michel Giraud, against a background of clashes between the force's French contingent and Shi'ite Moslem gunmen.

Goulding said the mission would be leaving shortly but refused to give dates.

Iran orders students home from Belgium

BRUSSELS (Reuters). — The Iranian Embassy in Brussels said yesterday it had asked all Iranian students in Belgium to return home following a diplomatic row between the two countries.

The Belgian Justice Ministry earlier this month said it had expelled two Iranian for activities incompatible with their diplomatic status and two Iranian students for violating public order. The expulsions took place at the end of April.

A statement issued yesterday by the embassy said only one diplomat, an attaché, had been asked to leave. Teheran itself had decided to withdraw a second, a first secretary who was the second-most senior official at the embassy.

The statement said the expulsion of the students was based on false information about them, and had disturbed the tranquillity which Iranian students need, for their studies in Belgium.

Iran to execute car-bombers at site of blast

NICOSIA (AP). — Iran's Information Minister Mohammed Mohammadi Reyshahri said yesterday the alleged car-bombers who killed 13 people in the holy city of Qom two weeks ago will be executed in the next few days at the scene of the blast. Iran's official news agency reported.

The Islamic Republic news agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Reyshahri as saying the families of the 13 people slain in the bombing outside the Hazrat Masoumeh mosque Aug. 16 had requested the bombers be executed there.

About 100 other people were wounded in the blast which occurred when the mosque was packed with worshippers on Islam's holiest feast of Id al-Adha.

Reyshahri announced last week that security authorities have broken

up two "terrorist networks" and arrested their agents "who were behind the Qom blast and six other explosions in Tehran this year."

THE ISRAELI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
128

Amadeus Festival — Autumn

Tel Aviv — Jerusalem
Mozart Piano Concerto
Conductor: Yoav Talmi
Arie Vardi, Renata Chachamov, piano
Tel Aviv Museum
Thursday, Sept. 4, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 1

Philippe Entremont,

conductor and pianist
Sherover Jerusalem Theatre
Saturday, Sept. 6, 9:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 1

Tel Aviv Museum

Monday, Sept. 8, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 2

Sunday, Sept. 7, 8:30 p.m. —

Tones and Voices.
Concert No. 1 Series No. 1

Ingrid Haebler, Akiko

Sagara, piano
Sherover Jerusalem Theatre
Tuesday, Sept. 9, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 2

Tel Aviv Museum

Wednesday, Sept. 10, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 3

Thursday, Sept. 11, 8:30 p.m. —

Tones and Voices.
Concert No. 1, Series No. 2

Prima Salzman, Ohad

Ben-Ari, piano
Sherover Jerusalem Theatre
Tuesday, Sept. 16, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 4

Tel Aviv Museum, Wednesday,

Sept. 17, 8:30 p.m. —
Amadeus No. 5

Thursday, Sept. 18, 8:30 p.m. —

Tones and Voices.
Concert No. 1, Series No. 4

Tickets: JERUSALEM — Jerusalem Theatre, Tel. 02-06-167
TEL AVIV — The Orchestra's offices, 4 Weizmann, Tel. 03-210102

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT COINS AND MEDALS CORPORATION

Notice to subscribers — Castel Medal

Due to the limited quantity of Castel 38mm. gold and 50mm. silver medals still available for sale, it has been decided that from August 31, 1986, these medals will not be on sale at the Corporation shops (in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv), nor at our Haifa dealers.

Subscribers will be able to order these medals only by bank payment or by mail order. The Corporation has taken this step in order to abide by the "first come-first served" arrangement, in accordance with ordering procedures. The sale of other Castel items (medals and additions) will continue as usual as long as supply lasts.



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Welcome ברוכים הבאים

to our dear friend and generous benefactor

Bernard W. Gimbel

We hope that your stay in Israel will be both successful and satisfying.

American Friends of Laniado Hospital
Board of Directors, Laniado Hospital

Migdal Ohr Institutions

and Rabbi Yitzhak D. Grossman

Welcome to Israel
Mr. Bernard W. Gimbel

a dear friend and staunch supporter.

Knesset Speaker casts light on the past — and a critical eye on the present

By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel believes that fear among some political parties that support for the legislation prohibiting incitement to racism would cost them votes was a prime factor in delaying the legislation for over 18 months.

Reflecting on a number of national issues on the eve of receiving the Yitzhak Sadeh Prize for Military Literature, Hillel told *The Jerusalem Post* that calculations were made as to how popular or unpopular the legislation might be.

"I do not want to imply that every politician who opposed or delayed legislation against racist incitement is himself a racist. I concede that some politicians may also have had personal motives for combating the legislation," Hillel said.

"In Israeli society, as in other immature societies, we hear explanations of the roots of racism, which we know well are quite different. In the public debate over the legislation, I have heard many erroneous diagnoses. Many citizens wrote to me arguing that the battle against racist incitement is no more than a campaign to promote mixed marriage," he revealed.

The first links in the chain to shackle racism had been forged relatively quickly and easily in the present 11th Knesset, Hillel noted. Racist electoral lists are now banned from future elections, and racist issues were banned from the Knesset agenda by an amendment to the House Rules. "But the ban on published incitement was also an essential link in the chain," he said.

Turning to his writing, Hillel was characteristically modest about the award he is due to receive on Tuesday, the Yitzhak Sadeh memorial prize for military literature.

The prize is for Hillel's book about the rescue of Iraqi Jewry in the first years of the state — *East Wind*. It was a mission he personally planned and directed on the spot at constant risk to his life.

The award ceremony, to be attended by President Herzog and Prime Minister Peres, takes place at the Jerusalem Theatre at 7 p.m.

The book is already into its sixth printing.

Busy in the Speaker's Bureau, despite the calm in the rest of the



Shlomo Hillel (Lisa Pleskow)

Knesset building due to the long parliamentary recess, Hillel told *The Jerusalem Post* that the prize does not constitute recognition for the book or its author, but for the events chronicled in the story.

Hillel believes that a serious error was made in not granting adequate recognition to the struggle of the Zionist underground in Arab lands before 1948, and to the risks taken to bring Jews of Middle Eastern origin to Palestine.

He admits the objective difficulty caused by the totally different attitude towards publicity, before 1948.

"During the era of illegal immigration from Europe, *aliya bet*, the seizure of an immigrant ship by the British caused instant worldwide publicity. A general awareness was created, at home and abroad, of the struggle of Jews from Europe to break through the British blockade and come home.

"By contrast, immigration from Iraq had to remain secret in all its phases, whether it succeeded or it failed, starting with the underground network in Iraq itself, and ending with the journey and the arrival.

"The secrecy involved not only Iraq, but also the crossing of territory in Jordan, Lebanon, or Syria to get here, as the case may be.

"The saga could not be told at the time. So it did not attract attention, let alone admiration. That set the vicious circle in motion. To this day, it has not yet been broken," he said.

Hillel recalls that for years Israeli leaders and institutions used confusing circumlocutions when the subject of immigration from Arab lands was brought up, and this too gave the various operations a low profile.

"Take a child with one parent who immigrated illegally from Europe and one parent from Iraq," he said. "That child, in school, learned lots about the drama of *aliya bet* from Europe before 1948. But his teachers taught him nothing about the Zionist underground in Iraq.

As it happens, Hillel's wife reached Palestine from central Europe as an illegal immigrant and met him in Kibbutz Maagan Michael.

There was more asymmetry in the fact that from May 1948 the tale of the illegal immigration organization in Europe, *Hamasat Le'aliya Bet*, could be told and was told. However, the saga of underground immigration from Middle Eastern lands remained untold, as far as Iraq was concerned, until 1953 at least. It stayed secret even longer as regards other Arab lands.

Hillel noted: "That was one of the reasons why we did not tell the world about the exchange of populations between Israel and the Arabs. The fate of Arab refugees from Palestine was immediately implanted in international awareness. We had to miss the bus. We could not talk about the fate of Jewish refugees from the Middle East, who exchanged places and property with the Arabs.

"As years went by, the record of immigration from Arab lands was not written into history when it could have been and when it should have been. There was a lack of sensitivity from the stark, to the entire chapter. That insensitivity surfaced in a characteristic manner, when the *Pillar of Fire* television series about the history of the Zionist movement and Israel ignored the Jews of the East in a deplorable manner.

"I found this out, at the 11th hour, and asked that something be done to remedy the shortcoming. After arguments, a tiny insert was added. The editors said they had no visual material available. But you cannot

allow the teaching of our national history to be dictated and shaped by the availability of film footage. You have to overcome that obstacle," he said.

Hillel said Israeli youngsters from all backgrounds had written to him, since reading his book, and told him how it had opened up new horizons. Teachers had written to him that now they were able to use the book as a basis to illustrate a whole new world which was previously closed to themselves and their pupils.

"Now I hear that the Ministry of Education is preparing additional material on the Zionist underground in the Arab world. But that effort has to be multiplied many times over," he said.

Hillel recalled the difference of opinion between former premier David Ben-Gurion and former Jewish Agency Treasurer and later premier Levi Eshkol about the urgency of immigration from Iraq.

"Eshkol called me in, when he heard I was going to Baghdad, and asked me to explain to the Jewish community that Israel could not take them in, all at once. He warned me that a mass exit would leave the Jews unhappy in Israel, and uncared for. He also warned me, in his typical bluff manner, that if the immigrants came to the Jewish Agency to demonstrate about their conditions, he would send them to my kibbutz to demonstrate instead.

"So I went back to B-G and said I would stay put under those conditions and refuse to go to Baghdad. B-G insisted that I ignore Eshkol, and go to bring the community over, since those who failed to come this year might be prevented from coming a year later.

"I went over. The Jews were brought in. They had it hard for years," Hillel said.

Looking back on the adjustment pains of the big Iraqi Jewish community, Hillel feels that its difficulties in absorption stemmed not only from the absence of proper resources and physical facilities, but also a lack of understanding on the part of settled Israelis and of the authorities.

"Today Israel is bigger, and it can afford better physical facilities for newcomers. However, social absorption has definitely not improved commensurately since those days.



Natan (Anatoly) Sharansky, left, and brother Leonid playing table tennis at the Shores Hotel, in the Jerusalem hills, where the Sharansky family have been spending a few days as guests of the management. Natan is currently writing a book and Leonid is due to begin studying Hebrew at the Mevasseret Zion ulpan next week. (Roni Na'aman)

Despite negative aspects of Pollard case

Sisco sees U.S.-Israel ties unhurt

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Former U.S. under secretary of state Joseph Sisco believes that Israel has successfully managed to limit the negative fallout from the Jonathan Jay Pollard spy scandal and other recent incidents involving the alleged Israeli theft of U.S. weapons and technology.

"Despite the strains, U.S.-Israeli relations today are as good as they have ever been," he said in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*. "It's reflected in the fact that the two key leaders in the administration — namely, the president and the secretary of state — understand fully the commonality and parallelism of Israeli-American relations, and that view pervades widely within the administration."

Sisco, who served as the State Department's ranking Middle East specialist until 1976, said Israel's posture in the peace process these past two years has also been deeply appreciated by senior officials in Washington. "The Reagan administration has concluded, rightfully in my judgment, that Israel has been fully cooperative in trying to move matters to the negotiating table, and that the problem is and has been on the Arab side," he said.

The former official, today an international business consultant in Washington who is still widely regarded as a leading expert on the Middle East, noted that even Jordan's King Hussein publicly blamed PLO chairman Yasser Arafat for the stalemate. In the past, Sisco said, it had been "characteristic" for the Arabs to simply blame the U.S. and Israel. This Jordanian posture, he said, "has not only major significance in terms of the attitude of the Reagan Administration, but it's a major significance in the area itself."

Also helping Israel in limiting the damage from the Pollard affair, he continued, were the impressive economic recovery in the country and the unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon — both of which were deeply appreciated by Washington.

Still, Sisco acknowledged that there are some officials in the U.S. government who do not necessarily share the positive feelings toward Israel of President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. These critics have sought to exploit the espionage scandal and the other incidents in order to drive a wedge between Washington and Jerusalem.



Joseph Sisco (Jeff Blue)

Sisco, who as a career foreign service officer was one of former secretary of state Henry Kissinger's closest associates while in office, did not mince any words in noting that Israel should never have got involved in the Pollard affair in the first place. It was a very bad blunder. For years, he said, there had been a very strong and mutually beneficial degree of confidence in this sensitive area of intelligence cooperation. Israel, he said, "abridged what has fundamentally been an informal understanding that has operated well between Israel and the United States." Covert operations against each other are "absolutely unnecessary because the amount of cooperation" between the two countries is so strong.

"Israel can get 98 percent of what it wants, based on that cooperation," he said. "And whatever one might get from a Pollard-type operation is not worth it in terms of the overall relationship."

The U.S., he insisted, has not authorized any similar types of clandestine operations against Israel. "There is no one in the U.S. installations who is running any spy networks in Israel," he said.

Right now, Sisco continued, the U.S. is preoccupied with the threat of international terrorism. The perception, he said, is that much of this terrorism comes from radical elements in the Arab world. And Washington clearly needs to maintain a high degree of cooperation with Israel in fighting this threat.

On the dramatic improvement of U.S.-Israeli relations in recent years, Sisco noted that much of the

Arab world has finally come around to accept this relationship as a virtual given. This means that "the parameter of tolerance as to what the U.S. feels it can do in regard to Israel without irreparably damaging its relationships with the Arabs, has been broadened considerably."

Practically, he explained, this allows the Reagan administration to propose the construction of a Voice of America radio transmitter in the Negev — something earlier U.S. administrations would not have felt comfortable doing 10 or 15 years ago. "This might have carried with it too great a political liability in the Arab world," he added.

"I would say," he continued, "that there has been an evolution in policy in this regard." In the Arab world today, there is "a much broader general acceptance of Israel's right to exist, and the fact that it isn't going to be possible to weaken or eliminate Israel on the basis of military means."

The Arabs have slowly but surely also come to recognize that America's support for Israel is not about to go away. "The firm support of the United States for Israel's security is a dimension that is very little challenged in the Arab world any longer, simply because of the firmness and the continuity of that policy under successive American administrations," he said.

But Israel, he agreed, also had to be aware of some potential pitfalls. The espionage business was one area of concern. There are also severe limits now-a-days on the amount of U.S. financial assistance available to Israel. "We're operating within a Gramm-Rudman environment," he said, referring to the mandatory budget balancing amendment.

Thus, if Israel plays its cards right and is sensitive to such fundamental U.S. concerns, this very strong bilateral relationship with the U.S. will continue.

But what about the scheduled "rotation" agreement in Jerusalem between Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Shamir? How will that affect U.S.-Israeli relations?

Sisco, who is still very plugged into the official Washington thinking, said the administration's concern over a potentially more hardline Israeli policy is not as great today as it was some 18 months ago. The mood in Israel has changed from "the heyday of the Lebanon operation and the peak of the Begin-Sharon leadership."

Toxic waste threat to Negev water

By LIORA MORIEL

REHOVOT. — The national toxic waste disposal site at Ramat Hovav threatens to pollute the western Negev's water supply, a Weizmann Institute geologist told *The Jerusalem Post* last week.

"Whatever is stored at the site is obviously dangerous and is in a concentrated form," said Motti Magaritz.

"If these poisons get into Nabal Seher they will end up polluting the drinking and irrigation water in the entire Negev. Who knows what these chemicals do? Some are carcinogenic and others cause blindness."

Magaritz said he had become familiar with the situation in Ramat Hovav, which is just outside of Beer-sheva, when he was asked to help monitor ground-water pollution there two years ago. Although the Ramat Hovav industrial park management eventually decided not to

hire them, Magaritz and his colleagues had decided to conduct the surveys out of professional interest.

"We dug up a bit of ground water for analysis and saw that it was black because of the tar pools on the site. The sample came from several metres away from the dump, so there is definite leaching into the aquifer," Magaritz concluded.

The geologist blamed the chalky rock underground, which scientists had said would act as a barrier between the wastes dumped at the site and the water table. In fact, he said, the rock has proven to be cracked and permeable.

"Surveys show the optimal site for the treatment and storage of toxic industrial wastes is near Sdom," Magaritz said. "If there is enough public pressure, the site will be moved."

Danny Ne'eman, the chief engineer for the government-owned Minvei Ta'asia Co., which operates

the Ramat Hovav industrial park, agreed that the Sdom area would have been a preferable dump site. But he dismissed charges that Ramat Hovav posed an ecological danger to the region.

"Scientists argue back and forth over this," he said. "All I know is that every month or two we pay for tests at the site's three wells, and there is no pollution, even 40 metres below the surface."

He said the most serious problem facing Ramat Hovav was the lack of a public authority to oversee the industrial park. Neither the Beer-sheba municipality, which wanted the park built as close to town as possible to ensure employment for city residents, nor the Hanegev Regional Council, want to take responsibility.

There are five large chemical companies at Ramat Hovav, employing some 1,000 people and registering sales of some \$200 million annually.

Tax perk for Israelis at hotels?

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter
If Justice and Tourism Minister Avraham Shariar has his way, Israelis who go to a local hotel for their holidays will be able to write off certain costs as a tax deduction.

Shariar has asked Finance Minister Moshe Nissim to discuss with him the possibility of legislation to this effect. Shariar has long been trying to push through a bill to encourage domestic tourism. One of the best incentives, he believes, is making holidays within Israel tax deductible. For one thing this would save foreign currency.

Shariar and a delegation from the Israel Hotel Association met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres two and a half months ago, when hotel occupancy was particularly low and were persuaded to defer discussion on the proposed bill until after the government and the Histadrut had signed a new wage agreement.

Despite the August upswing in hotel occupancy, Shariar is still anxious to go ahead with incentive legislation in keeping with his ministry's policy of encouraging domestic tourism all-year round.

UK security mars VAT reclaims for Israelis

By JERRY LEWIS

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
LONDON. — New security arrangements at London's Heathrow airport have led to apparent discrimination against Israeli passengers flying home on El Al or British Airways.

Value added tax reclaims forms which previously were authorized at the airport now have to be stamped at the point of arrival, despite an agreement reached between the British Foreign Office and the Israeli Embassy in March.

Airport authorities are confused

about the agreement, but El Al spokesman Lee Silverman confirmed to *The Jerusalem Post* that his airline's passengers were affected.

Since the Rome and Vienna airport terrorist attacks last December, El Al planes depart from an "out of sight" terminal at Heathrow, but the section dealing with customs duties still requires passengers to line up in the main concourse. Customs officials felt that this involved a safety risk for staff and Israeli-bound passengers, and so the VAT documentation required to enable

travellers to reclaim the 15 per cent tax on British purchases is no longer completed at Heathrow.

A senior airport customs official said there was no discrimination against Israel-bound passengers, but he could name no other destination to which similar arrangements applied.

The official denied that there was any collusion between British and Israeli customs officials.

Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Avner has asked El Al's general

manager Ze'ev Livne, to define the current situation.

He intends then to ask the Foreign Office to resolve the problem.

Livne told *The Jerusalem Post* that the arrangement smacks of discrimination.

Meanwhile Israeli passengers flying from Heathrow to Tel Aviv will continue to be faced with a notice displayed at the current customs desk advising them to take their forms and goods to their destination for checking and rubber stamping if they want to recover 15 per cent tax.

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A day of judgment

WHEN I was a kid I thought teachers just loved school. While we youngsters counted the days until the next vacation, we also assumed that teachers wished there weren't any holidays, and actually regretted every day they couldn't impart knowledge to the ignorant and uninitiated younger generation. It was my impression that if they could, teachers would probably sleep in the school in order to be right there the minute our shiny young faces appeared.

One of the greatest revelations upon becoming a fully-fledged teacher, and seeing things from the other side, is realizing that teachers are really just grown-up kids. They too count off the days until the next holiday, but, unlike their pupils, manage to hide this mental arithmetic. Teachers adore these lovely vacations, relish every moment out of the classroom, and the "re-entry" is as big a problem for them as it is for the kids.

In fact, just as teachers acclimatize to the easy, carefree lifestyle of July and August—the two months of the year in which they find themselves readily agreeing to go to a movie in the evening without feeling guilty about the pile of unmarked papers on the desk, or watching silly TV programmes in place of preparing the next day's lesson—teachers begin to arrive in the mail as a reminder that September 1 is just around the corner. Even worse, the school is so impatient to have its teachers back, that they invite them to get re-acquainted with the system—a meeting with last year's teachers, a meeting with new teachers, a meeting for English teachers, a meeting for all teachers...

Later a class list arrives with 40 children on the roster. You scan the list looking for a familiar name, perhaps the sibling of an ex-student, the child of a friend or neighbour, or of a well-known personality. Forty names to learn; 3 Michaels, 2 Cohens,

Anita Erlich presents a teacher's eye view of the opening of the school year.

3 Davids, how will you ever get to know them all? You run to school and pull out the files in the hope of trying to personalize those names. You find a new *oleh*, a broken home, father killed in Lebanon... You try to store it in your head; you're doing your homework...

I'VE TAUGHT in the Israeli high-school system for 10 years, but I still wonder if I'll ever be able to sleep on the night before September 1, whether come that morning, my stomach will not be a field of fluttering butterflies. As I look around the teacher's room at the beginning of the school year and see teachers who have taught for 15 years and 20 years, I know that August 31 will

Teachers with sunburned faces, a sign of the summer's relaxation which we all know will quickly disappear, sit nervously clutching a fresh, unfrayed roll book in one hand, and glistening white chalk in another. A brave smile sits pasted on their lips, waiting for the bell. Perhaps this is what keeps teachers young (or makes them old), a new start, a new challenge every year...

The bell rings and you walk down the corridor to the classroom: trying to remember what you were going to say in your opening remarks. But your mind is blank, your tongue dry, and you reach the classroom too soon. Forty expectant faces are waiting; they've already checked you out, and will pass final judgement



(Ruth Karinsky)

after seeing you in action.

You introduce yourself, trying to be sincere, but not too personal. Somehow you get the feeling that their "agents" have already supplied the information you're withholding. You then read the roster, stumbling over the new, unfamiliar names which have been written, of course, without dots; it slowly dawns that your reading is providing the first joke of the school year. You try to remember that David No. 1 is Duda,

and you'd better call Ya'acov Yaki or he won't respond. Rita tells you that she's just returned from the U.S. and she's bored already so please try to get her into English-speakers class...

You've finally finished that endless list of unpronounceable names and get on to business. You tell them about notebooks, textbooks, pens and pencils, coming on time, coming at all... You try to sound serious, official, to show that you mean it.

you are almost convinced that you do. They begin to get restless and bored, you tell the joke you told last year. Then it was a great success, but now... perhaps you've told it wrong. You make a mental note to discard it and find another one for next year. You also notice that the six boys sitting in the corner are very "friendly," better do something about that, and also about the girls sitting alone and rather forlorn in the back.

You glance at your watch, 15 minutes left; how time moves slowly. Your voice is already raspy and it feels as if you've done four hours of physical labour. You pull out the mimeographed sheets containing the poem by William Henry Davies, *Leisure*. As you read it together and call back the memories of the recent vacation, you suddenly realize why you are there. All eyes are turned towards you; you've engaged their minds; you sense that they appreciate what is being said; the wheels in their heads have begun turning; they become involved in the discussion. The bell rings, and now you feel sorry. You've barely gotten into the poem; there is so much to say... You're suddenly glad to be back. You leave the classroom clutching the roll book, and the slightly used chalk. You have survived it once again.

Orthodoxy — and feminism

Rabbi Mendell Lewittes discusses the difficulties of reconciling religious women's desire for sexual equality and Halachic rulings.

A CUSTOM dating from Talmudic times requires that a *bride* recite immediately after the circumcision the prayer: "Just as he [the infant] entered the Covenant, so may he enter into Torah, marriage and good deeds." However, in the prayer recited at the naming of a baby girl, the word *Tora* has invariably been omitted.

It is told that a pious father in the Middle Ages inscribed the following prayer at the birth of a girl: "May she sew, spin, weave and be brought up to a life of good deeds."

The omission of *Tora* in the prayer for a girl is a consequence of the opinion of the Tanna Eliezer b. Hyrcanus that "he who teaches his daughter *Tora*, it is as if he teaches her *Jew*ness" and that "a woman's wisdom is only in the spindle."

For centuries traditional Jewry followed Tanna Eliezer's opinion and made no provision at all for the formal education of girls. All girls knew of Jewish ritual and observance they learned from the practice of their parents and the customs of their communities.

In the early 20th century, when secular, public education became widespread, religious leaders began to question the traditional lack of formal Jewish education for girls. They argued that it could undermine the girls' faith and commitment to Jewish observance.

No less a strict halachist than Israel Meir HaCohen of Radun, the Hafetz Haim, conceded that R. Eliezer's opinion was tenable only in previous ages, when children would not question the practices of their elders. He contended that with non-Orthodox rampant, if girls were not taught the fundamentals of Judaism and its moral imperatives their defection from tradition would be imminent.

The need of the hour demanded the establishment of Jewish schools for girls. The first were Beit Ya'acov schools in Poland, followed by similar Jewish schools in communities throughout the world.

Now in many synagogues, when the *mi-she-berach* prayer for the birth of a daughter is recited, one can hear "Tora" as well as "hupa" (wedding canopy) in the blessing for a Jewish girl's future.

THOUGH CONTEMPORARY halachic scholars were ready to sanction instruction for girls, they confined studies to Written Law and the mitzvot which women are obliged to observe. They ruled out the study of the Oral Law, such as Mishna and Talmud. As girls began to taste the fruits of knowledge, and especially as the female teachers required for the girls' schools had to have a broader knowledge than the Five Books of Moses and the condensed Shulhan Aruch, the scope of instruction for girls became broader and deeper. The number of Orthodox women studying Talmud and Jewish philosophy, in addition to the sciences and liberal arts, increased considerably.

At the same time, the modern feminist movement arose, with its strong demands for the equality of the sexes. Orthodox women, no longer confined within the walls of a cultural ghetto, could not fail to be influenced by this movement. Having gained access to basic Jewish sources, they noticed some of the inequalities embedded in Jewish law.

Women also began to feel more keenly their exclusion from some of the religious observances which Halacha imposes upon men exclusively. Among the issues raised by Orthodox feminists have been the halachic restrictions against abortion for economic and social reasons; the ruling that only men are empowered to issue a *get* (bill of divorce); the exemption of women from certain mitzvot, such as putting on tefillin; and most recently the disqualification of women to constitute a *minyan* and consequently being barred from conducting regular congregational

prayers among themselves.

The response to this recent demand by contemporary halachists — some "modern Orthodox" among them — has been negative and often unsympathetic. Basically, they assert, the Halacha is divinely revealed and, thus, impervious to subjective emotional considerations. The late Rabbi Moshe Feinstein, responding to a query concerning Orthodox Jewish feminists, stated: "At the outset, one has to know that a principle of our pure faith is that the entire *Tora*, both written and oral, was given by God Himself on Mount Sinai through Moshe Rabbeinu, and it is impossible to change even one iota."

Feinstein qualified this by adding that the Sanhedrin and Tora scholars have the duty to institute new regulations and add prohibitions as hedges against possible violations of Tora laws. He explained the Tora's exemption of women from certain commandments in that they are by nature occupied with the rearing of children and, therefore, cannot be burdened with all of the mitzvot. He reiterated that even though social and economic circumstances may have changed, "there exists no power to change anything, even if the whole world may agree to do so; and these women [i.e., the feminists] who stubbornly fight for change are deniers of the Tora."

The rabbi conceded that women may take upon themselves mitzvot which they are not obligated by the Tora to do — putting on tefillin excepted. However, he says this is so only if women do not intend to observe the commandments as a way of impugning the Tora, an intention which he attributed to the Orthodox feminists. Others responding to the question cited a long array of authorities who have denounced any attempt to deviate from established custom.

THE DEMAND which has received extensive treatment in rabbinic literature and yet which Halacha finds almost impossible to satisfy, is the inequality in the Jewish divorce process. Rabbenu Gershom (c. 955-c.1030) reduced this inequality by instituting that a woman cannot be divorced against her will. However, the law still requires the free consent of the husband, and as long as he withholds his consent his wife remains married to him under Halacha, even though the couple are living apart and have been divorced by the civil courts.

Numerous proposals have been suggested to remedy this situation, for which women have been clamouring in Israel and the Diaspora. Most of these proposals call for a pre-nuptial contract which would penalize the recalcitrant party when the giving of a *get* is ordered by a rabbinic court. However, *poskim* (halachic codifiers) have found one flaw or another in such arrangements, and no proposal has been accepted by the religious authorities.

Even Israeli rabbinic courts are reluctant to pressure husbands to grant bills of divorce, though they are empowered to do so, including ordering imprisonment.

There is one radical solution which has a precedent in a Talmudic ruling: the annulment of a marriage by a rabbinic court declaring that the marriage ceremony was invalid *ab initio*. This happened in the case of a man who compelled a woman to accept his proposal of marriage by threatening her with physical assault. Medieval rabbis were reluctant to exercise such authority; how much more so would modern rabbis be reluctant to exercise such sweeping judicial powers?

An additional consideration which inhibits the halachist today from making any concessions to feminist demands are the concessions which the Conservative move-



(Erwin Schenkelbach)

ment has already made, such as calling women to the reading of the Tora and, more recently, the ordaining of women rabbis.

Orthodox Judaism, in its attempt to preserve the demarcation between it and Conservative Judaism, is responding to any demand for change in the same manner that its forebears two centuries ago responded to the incipient Reform movement: it is using the slogan "Anything new is forbidden by the Tora." It proceeds on the assumption that any breach in accepted practice, no matter how slight, will only strengthen the Conservative movement and eventually undermine the authority of the Halacha in other areas as well.

As the halachist sees it, his responsibility is not only to teach the Halacha but also to preserve its integrity and authority in Jewish life. The only way to accomplish this is by refusing to sanction any deviation from tradition's inviolability.

The rabbi fears that any amendment to the existing Code of Jewish Law would open the floodgates and release a torrent of reckless demands. These demands, the rabbis believe, would change the whole character of Jewish life and sweep away many of the hallowed traditions that are an inseparable part of Judaism.

THIS IS not the place to examine whether this categorical fear is justified, except to indicate one instance where a bold departure is justified. I

refer to the demand that a quorum of women gathered for prayer may constitute a *minyan*, allowing them to recite those portions of public prayer restricted by the Halacha to a minimum of 10 adult males.

Conceding to this demand would not be the first concession to women desiring to fulfil certain mitzvot limited to men. No less an authority than Rabbenu Tam ruled that women may recite benedictions starting "and has commanded us," even though the Halacha asserts that they are not commanded. A sensitivity to women's desire to pray at all times was manifested by the 15th century German rabbi, Yisrael Isserlein, author of *Trumat Ha-deshen*. He ruled that women may enter the synagogue even during their menstrual period, on the grounds that to deny them that privilege would cause them "distress and shame."

Modern Orthodox rabbis who have responded negatively to this demand must have the opinion of an impressive array of both medieval and modern *poskim* who maintain the Talmudic position that women do not constitute a *minyan*. They miss the point. The question the *poskim* should confront today is this: Is our evaluation of women and their role in religious life compelling enough, and is this specific demand reasonable enough, to allow a further concession to women?

Reliable precedent can be found in the opinion of rabbis Yosef and Shimon that women may "lay hands upon a sacrifice, not because the

laying of hands is required for women, but in order to grant them gratification."

The ruling requiring a *minyan* for certain recitations in public prayer is based upon the verse "That I may be sanctified in the midst of the children of Israel" (Leviticus 22:31). Are women by nature incapable of sanctifying God; and are they by nature excluded from the community of Israel?

I must here and now register my protest against the learned rabbis of Yeshiva University who wrote the reply condemning the demand for halachic recognition of a women's *minyan*. The rabbis overstepped the boundaries of halachic polemic by accusing the women of "distorting the Tora... being like Korah in revolting against established leadership and setting up a separate *minyan*... having ulterior motives for the sake of publicity" and of "promiscuousness [sic]."

Instead of accusing these women of wanting to join the Conservative movement, the rabbis should acknowledge their sincere desire to remain within the camp of Orthodoxy. Furthermore, these women are not appeased by all the nice things said about Jewish women in the Talmud. They seek — and they have every right to do so — halachic rulings that are based upon a recognition of their equal status as members of the Jewish community. Such recognition would indeed strengthen their commitment to traditional religious observance.

Chaos and order

Mum's the word/Judy Labensohn

DAY NUMBER 10 in the Diaspora and my hopes for the ingathering of the exiles are taking a nosedive. I'm ready to describe the option of a Jewish life in Israel to anyone who will listen, but no one's calling to book me for Show and Tell. The Jews I've met are happily entrenched — two-car garages, matching curtains, dust ruffles and sheets in the bedrooms and golden fish faucets in the guest bathrooms.

Judging from the fierce business going on at the mall, people are looking only for material options. I wander around aimlessly amidst the lush indoor gardens and computerized fountains. This could be Ein Gedi, were it not for the roof over my head, the deadening Muzak and fast food restaurants competing for my appetite.

The pinch I give myself hurts, so I know I'm still alive. Unable to find consolation in the mall, I drive over to the auto teller to see if having cash in my pocket helps.

During the first week in the Diaspora, I mastered ordering a coke and chips into a microphonic wall at Burger King. This was no easy feat.

"Audio On" and "Press for Service" are my choices. I opt for Press. A mechanical arm reaches out to me in the driver's seat. This is the first outreach I've experienced since arriving from Jerusalem, and it isn't even Jewish.

"Can I help you, ma'am?" a voice wafts into the car. I look around. Nothing but sky, asphalt and a lonely tree or two. Then I notice "Audio On" is lit up in red and a female voice standing behind a glass (bullet proof?) wall is asking me, "How ya doin' today?"

"Oh, not so good," I respond, assuming she cares.

She flashes her co-teller one of those glances that she's got a kook on her hands. Apparently, honesty does not suit the technology.

"Just write out your cheque, please, and place it in the glass tube." The glass tube is waiting for my transaction in the arm that is outstretched to me.

Images of shoozooing with friends and neighbours at Bank Leumi on Derech Hebron invade my solitude. I see the honeysuckle in a blue Hebron glass vase placed in the centre of the table, as my three-year-old starts climbing. The manager is approaching, looking rather grim, as

the arm with the glass tube stretches itself out to me again. This time it is full of dollars. I take out the glass tube and stare in amazement at America.

"Thank you," I say into the audio sign, not sure with what object or human being to make eye contact.

With a combination of awe and depression I drive home.

While fingering through the junk mail addressed to "Resident," a flyer catches my eye.

"Did you appoint times for Tora Study?" it asks. (No, I say into the paper, thinking it too may be automated and carry my voice to some distant receptor.)

"Call 698-8223 and start learning Tora through the telephone," I read on. Desperate in Diaspora, I pick up the receiver, proud that I am still adventurous enough to try anything once.

"Welcome to Let's Learn Tora. Today is the most important day in Jewish history — the anniversary of the creation of the world."

The accent is Brooklyn Ashkenazi.

"Today is the day to gain strength to build your world anew," says the voice to the ear.

Now only awe remains. Depression having been swept away by wonder, wonder at American marketing techniques in the service of the Jewish people.

Perhaps we should sell Israel over the telephone, I muse. Anyone interested could call a 1-800 number and a recording in both Sephardi and Ashkenazi English could list the reasons for making aliya. Then all the *shlichim* (emissaries) could go back home.

"Out of the *tohu va-vohu*. God created order. So too must we create order in our daily lives. Today is the day to gain the strength to build our own world anew," the voice continues, oblivious to my lapses of attention. How such profundity could come through junk mail astounds me, yet profound it is and just in time.

I decide not to wallow away my days at malls outside the walls of the Old City. Life can exist in the Diaspora too. Indeed, I existed here for 21 years before I even entered the Promised Land. If no Jews want to hear my *shpiel* about aliya, maybe the Dakota Indians who live nearby will be interested.

The author is on shlichut in America.

Jewish Art Calendars



KENNICOTT BIBLE CALENDAR

One of the finest examples of Sephardic Jewish art, the famous 15th century Kennicott Bible is reproduced here in 12 illuminated pages (Oct.-Sept.) in 8 colours with gold and silver embossing. Size: 30 x 45 cm. (11 1/4" x 17 1/2"). Published by Tumowsky. LIST PRICE: NIS 38.90 JP SPECIAL: NIS 34.50



ILLUMINATED HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS

Bold and beautiful illuminations, embossed in gold and silver, with reproductions from a variety of historic religious books from around the world. Nov.-Sept., 7 leaves. Size: 34 x 45 cm. (13 1/2" x 17 1/2"). Published by Palphot. LIST PRICE: NIS 36.40 JP SPECIAL: NIS 31.50



THE JEWISH CALENDAR

Illustrated with Jewish artifacts from the collection of the Skirball Museum, this 16-month calendar (Sept. 1986 - Dec. 1987) is attractive as well as practical, with each date squared off — perfect for keeping track of your day to day schedule. Size: 25 x 32 cm. (10" x 12 3/4"). Published by Steinitzky. LIST PRICE: NIS 15.90 JP SPECIAL: NIS 13.95



MOSAICS IN ISRAEL

Contains 9 striking photographs (8 leaves) of some of the most beautiful ancient mosaics found throughout Israel, superbly reproduced in 8 colours plus decorative gold embossing. Oct.-Sept. Size: 44 x 40 cm. (15 3/4" x 17 1/4"). Published by Tumowsky. LIST PRICE: NIS 32.90 JP SPECIAL: NIS 28.50



ANCIENT MAPS AND PRINTS OF THE HOLY LAND CALENDAR 1987

A colourful and fascinating calendar featuring an array of maps, from Jerusalem in the 6th century to a map of the world in 1275, up to a 15th century depiction of the Mediterranean region. Gold foil embossing, 7 leaves, Oct. - Dec. Size: 44 x 40 cm. (15 3/4" x 17 1/4"). Published by Terra Sancta. LIST PRICE: NIS 29.50 JP SPECIAL: NIS 25.95

To: BOOKS, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

For overseas deliveries, please add NIS 7.50 airmail postage per calendar.

Please send a gift card in my name (as indicated to the left) to the following:

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☐ ILLUMINATED ☐ HEBREW MANUSCRIPTS ☐ THE JEWISH CALENDAR

Elscent's troubles put Elron in the red

Jerusalem Post Staff

A \$21.7 million write-off of its holding in the financially troubled Elscint Ltd. left Elron Electronic Industries Ltd. in the red for the year ended March 31, 1986, Elron said.

The company posted a \$12.1m. loss for the year, equal to \$1.12 a share, a turnaround from the slim \$400,000, or four cents a share, profit it had earned in the previous financial year.

Elscint, which Elron founded in 1970 and in which it currently holds a 66 per cent stake, reported a \$92m. loss last Thursday for the seven months ended October 31, 1985. It was one of the worst results ever in Israeli corporate history.

The company is undergoing a capital restructuring that it said should leave the net worth of its shares at \$10m. Elscint nevertheless

reported that sales were continuing at satisfactory levels.

Despite troubles at Elscint, Elron said sales for all its affiliates were up sharply to \$336.6m. in the year, a nearly 11 per cent gain from the previous year's \$303.8m. Sales for Elron and affiliated companies in which it holds a 50 per cent or greater stake came to \$169.6m., a gain of nearly 12.5 per cent from the previous year's \$150.8m.

Elron said operations accounted for over 67 per cent of sales from all its affiliates.

For the final quarter of the year, Elron posted net earnings of \$1.05m., or 10 cents a share, compared with \$283,000, or three cents a share, a year earlier. Sales in the January-March period came to \$38.7m., compared with \$37.3m. a year earlier.

Cyprus to rely on services for growth

NICOSIA. — The Cyprus economy, beset by structural weaknesses, will use the service sector as its main motor for improved growth, the central bank said last week in its annual report.

The bank's report predicted a substantial fall in the island's balance of payments deficit this year to 3.1 per cent of gross domestic product from 5.1 per cent in 1985.

Prospects for tourism, offshore

activities and international trade and transport appear to be bright, which would fuel the moderate improvement, the report said. Seen as an authoritative indicator of official economic policy, the report said structural weaknesses could be corrected only by government action and would necessitate an "active fiscal policy" in 1986. It cited a high public sector deficit, low domestic savings and poor productive investment as areas of concern.



Five models display local fashion at the Laromme last week. (Eli Shafir)

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES		August 15, 1986	
COUNTRY	CURRENCY	BANK OF ISRAEL	Representative Rates
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1	1.4874
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	1	2.1976
GERMANY	MARK	1	0.7243
FRANCE	FRANC	1	0.2212
HOLLAND	GULDEN	1	0.5421
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	1	0.8978
SWEDEN	KRONA	1	0.2181
NORWAY	KRONE	1	0.2028
DENMARK	KRONE	1	0.1916
CANADA	DOLLAR	1	0.3016
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1	0.6688
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	1	0.9063
INDONESIA	RUPIAH	100	0.5769
INDONESIA	RUPIAH	100	0.5489
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	10	1.0282
ITALY	LIRE	1000	1.0497
JAPAN	YEN	100	0.9636
JORDAN	DINAR	1	4.2688
EGYPT	POUND	1	0.7883
CURRENCY BASKET			0.4973

MIDDLE EAST ECONOMY

Iraqi raids, weather cut into Iran's oil exports

Iraq and the weather have dealt Iranian oil exports a double blow, cutting oil shipments — the chief source of foreign exchange to fund its six-year-old war with Iraq — to barely a trickle.

The Iraqis delivered the first blow. To protect foreign tankers from Iraqi air attacks, the Iraqis decided to make Sirri Island their chief oil terminal. Four-hundred and sixty kilometres from the Iran-Iraq border and close to the Strait of Hormuz, Larak is further out of reach than Sirri. But it presents its own problems, which have become all too evident to the Iraqis since they made the move.

Initially the move forced Iran to cut its oil exports, normally around 1.6 million barrels a day, down to a daily average of around 600,000 barrels a day, according to the highly authoritative Middle East Economy Survey. Part of the problem is a shortage of Iranian tanker tankers to bring in the oil from Kharg, as well as

plunging three vessels and killing at least 17 seamen. Tehran accused Baghdad of launching the raid from one of the Persian Gulf states; Iraq claimed its planes were able to reach their target by mid-air refueling.

In any case, the Iraqis were forced to move their main oil terminal to Larak, hastily bringing the six storage super tankers with them. Near the giant Bandar Abbas airbase at the mouth of the Strait of Hormuz, Larak is further out of reach than Sirri. But it presents its own problems, which have become all too evident to the Iraqis since they made the move.

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damage inflicted on Kharg itself. Gulf shipping sources say between 11 and 13 vessels in the shuttle fleet have been hit by Iraqi planes in recent weeks. Sources at Lloyd's of London told the survey that the national Iranian tanker company was looking for replacements.

But the real problem is the weather. Larak is right at the mouth of the Persian Gulf, which may be better protected than Sirri Island from the Iraqis but less so from rough seas. The port has been plagued by swells of up to three metres, forcing the repeated suspensions of operations, which in turn have created a long queue of tankers awaiting their oil.

The heavy swells, from monsoon winds not due to end until some time next month, are particularly hard to handle because there is no proper terminal at Larak. Tankers have to tie up alongside storage tankers, heaving in the open sea.

"There have been some days when they couldn't load," a tanker captain told Reuters.

Shipping sources say conditions at Larak have cut Iranian oil exports to far less than 600,000 a day by now. The weather will clear up, but even then Iran's problems will not be over.

The Middle East Economy Survey said charter rates were expected to be higher than those obtained prior to the Sirri attack, when the shuttle fleet was already costing Iran \$150 million a year.

The publication also noted that the 63 tankers in the gulf that have been hit by Iraqi and Iranian warplanes so far this year have led insurance companies to sharply boost insurance premiums. More importantly, the attacks have created a wave of fear and growing reluctance on the part of shipowners and crewmen to ply the gulf routes. (AP, Reuters)

Fashion Week posts \$12m. orders

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Official statements released at the close of Israel Fashion Week do not always tally with those from the showrooms of participating manufacturers. Organizers have tended to paint a far rosier picture than disgruntled export managers.

But if official and unofficial reports from this week's show are to be believed, August 1986 may turn out to be the turning point in Israel's fashion exports.

Signed orders at the show, which ended Thursday at Jerusalem's Laromme Hotel, exceeded \$12 million, a 140 per cent increase over last year's Summer Fashion Week sales, which totalled about \$5m.

The result bears out the claim of the Israel Export Institute's Fashion Centre that the quantity of buyers is unimportant; it's the quality that counts. This was the theme song season after season when figures for both buyers and sales were at an ebb.

But although the turnout of buyers was small, the Europeans had greater buying power and more flexible budgets because of the renewed strength of their currencies.

The veracity of the oft-repeated theme proved true this year.

Altogether, including vacationers who did not specifically come to Israel for the show, there were 105 registered buyers. The biggest surprise of all was that the U.S. sent 38 of the total. It was the first time in many years that American buyers have outnumbered those from other countries. West Germany, which usually sends the largest or second largest contingent, came in just behind the U.S. with 35 buyers.

Swimwear manufacturers achieved the highest volume of business, and surprisingly closed major deals with U.S. buyers despite the weaker dollar.

A handful of Israeli companies even had to refuse orders because they are not structured for the volume of mass production buyers were demanding. It was a reversal of the situation seven or eight years ago when manufacturers rejected the overtures of boutique buyers because the only orders they wanted were for mass production.

Nowadays, says Fashion Centre Director Miri Beckenstein, the industry faces a severe problem: Salar-

ies for factory workers are low and there is not enough of a gap between unemployment benefits and wages paid to seamstresses to offer enough inducement to people out of work to join the industry.

Knitwear manufacturers lost out on several orders because they could not guarantee short-term delivery. Without adequate labour, they risked damaging their reputations by making promises they could not keep. So they accepted long-term delivery orders only.

Swimwear manufacturers did well, and leather-wear producers, though slow on export, gained on the local market. Strictly speaking, summer 1987 collections are not shown to domestic buyers before December-January. Gortex for instance, politely ushered the locals out of the showroom, explaining that they did not want anyone turning up their noses in December, saying "I've seen this before."

However, leatherwear producers such as Sisk Sak and Jerusalem Leather made up on the swing for what they lost on the roundabouts and were more than happy to write local orders.

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 6.90 per line including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 138 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL MUSEUM. Exhibitions: Kefi Hinnom — treasure facing Jerusalem's walls; "A Man and his Land," Moshe Dayan collection; "Moshe Genshoni, largest presentation of his paintings, 1950-1986." Jenny Holzer/Barbara Kruger — 2 American Artists exploring the use of words. "Joe Kanner, Photographs of Israel." In Contemporary Jewish Museum. "New in Antiquities" Exhibition from Japanese Graphics collection. "From the Depths of the Sea (Rockefeller)" Big and Small, relative scale in life, art and children's world. "Jews of Children's Literature." Permanent exhibitions of Archaeology, Judaica and Ethnology.

VISITING HOURS: 10-5, At 11 and 3: Guided tour of Museum in English, 11-13: Guided tour of Shrine of the Book in English.

L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun-Thurs. 10-1: 3:30-5:30. Sat. and holiday even 10-12. Hapalmach St., Tel. 02-6512912. Bus No. 15.

Exhibitions
JERUSALEM MAP HOUSE, Old City, 7 Beit El St., 288338, 423547. Roberts, Turner, etc.

TEL AVIV

MUSEUMS
TEL AVIV MUSEUM. Exhibitions: Israeli Summer, new and enlarged Israeli Art Collection Selection. "Edvard Munch, prints: Death, Love and Anxiety." "Print Into Print, works by six Israeli artists." "Frank Stella — Hard Gels. Series of prints from El Lissitzky." The Museum's collection of Classical, Impressionist, Post-Impressionist and contemporary art. Visiting hours: Sun-Thurs.

HAIFA

MUSEUMS
HAIFA MUSEUM, 26 Shabbat Lavi St. Tel. 04-523255. Exhibitions: Modern Art. The Hot and the Cool in Israel Art. Ancient Art — Jewish coins of the Second Temple. Egyptian, Egyptian, terracotta figurines. Open: Sun-Thurs. & Sat. 10-11; Tues. Thurs. & Sat. also 9-9. Tickets also adults to National Maritime, Prehistoric and Japanese Museums.

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA

Jerusalem Institute for Drug Problems. Tel. 063328, 663902, 14 Beitshimon Rd.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Albe, 42 Yaffo, 227073; Beit-Haim, 223333; Edin, 272115; Shufar, 272115; Shufar, 272115; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT), Sheara Zedek (Internal), Hadassah Scopus (obstetrics), Bikur Holim (Leishman).

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES

17.30 Cowboy in Africa. Part 2 of a 12-part series. Work of Art.

TELEVISION

9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 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The sports pages are edited by Philip Gillon and Yoram Kessel.

THE JERUSALEM POST

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ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, Jerusalem P.O. Box 81
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Rotation jitters

SIX WEEKS away from rotation, that unique Israeli contribution to democratic government by which the premiership rotates in mid-term between the two major coalition parties, strange and disconcerting voices emanate from the Likud camp. Various moves and diplomatic initiatives by Prime Minister Shimon Peres are being questioned, as if he was representing only the Labour Alignment wing of the government.

Last week, Minister without Portfolio Moshe Arens went as far as saying that Mr. Peres was regarded as "in effect a lame duck" by world leaders who realize that if they wanted commitments the man to talk to was Vice Premier Yitzhak Shamir. In a subsequent, partial retraction Mr. Arens admitted, however, that Mr. Peres had been "pretty good about not deviating from policy principles of the national unity government."

Now, with the summit meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Premier Peres only over one week away, Mr. Shamir is reported to be making every effort to have the Israel-Egypt summit focus on issues of normalizing relations between both countries, rather than on furthering the peace process. Having successfully stymied reaching agreement on the Taba arbitration issue - Egypt's precondition for a meeting with President Mubarak - until the last weeks of Mr. Peres's premiership, Mr. Shamir and his colleagues are now trying to denude the summit of any meaningful move towards some progress in the peace process which would commit him as well.

At the same time, Likud leaders have recently been stating repeatedly that once Mr. Shamir becomes prime minister new settlements in the West Bank will again be high on the government's agenda.

Everything seems to point up again the two, almost diametrically opposed policies of the two major government coalition parties, which, on the face of it, would make joint governing an almost impossible task.

But there is the rub. These stark policy differences between the Labour Alignment and the Likud were perfectly well known to both sides when they were engaged two years ago in negotiations to set up what became known as a national unity government. The price of this unique exercise, apart from rotation, was reaching some sort of common denominator for which both major parties would have to give up some of their foremost political endeavors.

Thus, the Likud had to agree to limit the number of new settlements in the West Bank to a paltry few, while Labour had to forgo some of its important policy principles which are to guide the peace process.

But, by the same token, this government is committed to strive for peace negotiations with Jordan without any prior conditions, even if the Likud would rather see this not happening in the foreseeable future.

At the time, the two parties agreed that the government's immediate task would be to rescue the country's economy from sure disaster, brought about during seven years of Likud rule, and to withdraw from Lebanon following Israel's most ill-conceived war, brought about in 1982 by then defence minister Ariel Sharon. With both tasks having been fulfilled with a great degree of success, in good part thanks to the active efforts and support by the government's Labour wing, the next obvious political move ought to be in the direction of progress in the stalemated peace process.

This is, indeed, one of the major policy principles of the national unity coalition which will continue to guide the government also after rotation. The fact that any meaningful negotiations with King Hussein would have to include a delegation of authentic Palestinians, acceptable to Israel, is also well known to the Likud leaders.

Mr. Peres as Vice Premier and Foreign Minister will continue to play a major role in the shaping of Israel's international relations which have witnessed considerable improvement during his premiership. Mr. Yitzhak Rabin will remain in his important post as Defence Minister and will thus continue the same settlement policy as before.

Any talk then, as if the government under Mr. Shamir would be likely to adopt new and different policies, is therefore futile, unless the Likud is bent on breaking up the government soon after Mr. Shamir takes over as prime minister. The same rule should apply to certain personal appointments by Mr. Shamir, which are likely to upset the precarious equilibrium without which this government cannot remain in power.

U.S. SPELLS OUT

(Continued from Page One)
Walters' literary public, citing security reasons.
But the officials said London, Bonn, Paris, Brussels, The Hague, Rome and Madrid were on the list and other stops could be added.

Walters is the highest ranking American to visit Western Europe to press for sanctions since Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead went there in January.

The officials said it was no accident that the abrasive Walters, not the mild-mannered banker Whitehead, was being sent this time.

"Walters is a presence you can't ignore. Maybe he'll have better luck," one said.

Meanwhile the U.S. aircraft carrier Forrestal has been moved into the central Mediterranean and 18 F-111 planes, which participated in the April raids from bases in Britain, flew back there in what the Pentagon

described as routine operations.
The Washington Post interpreted the American moves as a war of nerves designed to provoke the Libyan leader into an irrational reaction and set him up for possible overthrow by domestic opponents.

Libyan Radio reported yesterday that Gaddafi briefed a conference of revolutionary committees, which oversee local government, on confronting "the challenges of U.S. imperialism."

Diplomatic sources said Gaddafi apparently had toned down his fiery anti-American rhetoric in an effort to defuse U.S.-Libyan tension.

Staff Maj. Abdelsalam Jalloud, the country's second in command, told a news conference that the U.S. should supply "the main plans and targets" of alleged terrorists so they could be put on trial either in Libya or by an international court.

LIBYA - MOROCCO

(Continued from Page One)
sus in defiance of the feelings of the Arab nation."

In a message to Gaddafi released by the palace, the king told him the terms of the Libyan-Syrian statement "no longer allow our country to continue on the path of the path of the state union with your country."

Hassan revealed that Gaddafi had twice refused to receive special Moroccan envoys sent to explain the nature of the talks with Peres.

Appealing to the Libyan people, he said Morocco would "respect Libyan sovereignty as long as Moroccan sovereignty is respected."

ISRAEL, as the Jewish state cannot remain unconcerned by the plight of Jewish people anywhere in the world. One of the extra burdens that the Zionist ethos puts on Israel is that in deciding on its foreign policy, the Jewish component must be taken into consideration: be it South Africa, Ethiopia or the Soviet Union. *Raison d'etat* alone cannot guide the policy decisions of Israel. The special dimension of Jewish life in these countries has to be taken into account by Israeli policy-makers.

Therefore the fate of Soviet Jewry is an integral part of the complex Soviet-Israeli relationship. It still remains to be decided, which is the way, and which the optimal strategy, to ensure that the interests of those Jews who want to immigrate to Israel would be best served.

During the brief Soviet-Israeli talks in Helsinki, a curious phenomenon appeared in Israel: The demand that Israel makes discussions over Soviet Jewry a condition for any contacts with the Soviet Union.

There is a strange lack of realism in the relative power of the two countries concerned, and it naively believes that if Israel demands of the Soviets that they allow Jewish immigration to Israel, the Soviet Union, just by hearing that demand directly from Israeli officials, would change its policy overnight. The underlying assumption of such a view also maintains that Soviet Jewish immigration

to Israel can be achieved as part of a Soviet-Israeli deal.

WHEN some highly emotional people think like that, it is perhaps to be condoned. But when senior government ministers express such views, it casts a serious shadow over their understanding of the cruel facts of life (unless, of course, what they wanted was to abort the Helsinki talks outright: but I cannot imagine Israeli patriots, and all the people who expressed themselves in that direction certainly view themselves as patriots, would espouse such cunning Machievellianism).

There is no doubt that Israel has to continue to keep the plight of Soviet Jewry on the international agenda: in this we have been successful until now, and I have no doubt will continue to be successful. But the question is: will the Soviet Union change its policy because of bilateral Soviet-Israeli considerations, or because of

Key to Soviet-Jewish immigration is in U.S.

By SHLOMO AVINERI

another dimension?
The practical answer, learned from experience, is very simple: Soviet attitudes to Jewish immigration have very little to do with Soviet relations with Israel; they have to do only with Soviet-American relations.

When the Soviet Union allowed more than 200,000 Jews to emigrate in the 70s and early 80s, this was at a time when Soviet-Israeli relations were at their lowest. Jewish immigrants came to Israel from the Soviet Union even during the Yom Kippur War; the greatest number of Jews were allowed to immigrate during the first years of Menachem Begin's premiership, when there was a strong anti-Soviet ideological component in Israeli foreign policy. But those were the years of détente, and the Soviets relented on Jewish immigration as part of Soviet-American détente, and not as part of a Soviet move towards Israel.

The switch in Soviet policy towards allowing a controlled Jewish emigration to Israel was part of the Soviet opening towards the United States; it started under Richard Nixon and continued, in a different way, under Jimmy Carter. The combination of Henry Kissinger's détente policy and Senator Henry Jackson's tough anti-Soviet line gave us the opening of Soviet gates to Jewish immigration. When détente declined, so did Soviet Jewish immigration. Israel had very little to do with it directly, except, of course, by keeping the issue alive in the West.

There is a kind of an Israeli knee-jerk reaction which views détente with grave suspicion, and thinks that Israel will, on a regional plane, have to pay the price for it. The past has shown this is not the case. The past has also shown that détente, when conducted out of a position of strength and toughness on the part of the U.S. - as it was under Kissinger -

also helps the Jewish agenda with regard to immigration.
Soviet-American détente is, in short, good for the Jews. Soviet-American tension, on the other hand, stiffens Soviet policy towards the Jewish issue.

THE SOVIET UNION is a hard-headed, cruel and realistic regime. Ideological considerations are secondary in its deliberations to power-politics: Israeli pleas, or demands, for Jewish immigration appear in the Soviet context as unrealistic and naive. In a global context of détente, they make sense - and they made sense in the past.

Soviet Jews will be again allowed to immigrate to Israel in the future, and I have no doubt that this will happen, as part of a new overall Soviet-American détente, not as part of Israeli tough talk when we have very little to offer to the Soviets. Why should they do us a favour? Because of their commitment to human rights? They will relent only if there is something in it for them - and this they can get from the U.S., not from Israel.

In short: for the sake of Soviet Jewry, Israel should be interested in détente, not in Soviet-American tension. This is the way, and the only way, of again opening the closed gates of the Soviet Union to Jewish immigration to Israel.

The writer, a professor of political science at the Hebrew University, recently visited the Soviet Union.

READERS' LETTERS

THE ACTIVITIES OF SIMON WIESENTHAL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I think the time has come to end the hunting season on Simon Wiesenthal. The letter by Avner Less of August 20 was a classic example of the low level to which his detractors have sunk in their efforts to besmirch his well-deserved good reputation.

Mr. Less writes: "I can confirm that according to various sources of information brought to my attention, Mr. Wiesenthal had indeed contributed nothing of any relevant importance to Stangl's being brought to trial, if at all." What about pertinent sources of information, which were not brought to his attention?

As a matter of fact, Mr. Wiesenthal did play a role of consequence in the efforts to prosecute Stangl and there is ample documentation to prove his involvement.

As far as his efforts to bring Eichmann to justice are concerned, Wiesenthal made an important contribution when he prevented Mrs. Eichmann from registering her husband as dead immediately after the war. The documentation to prove this claim is available in the Yad Vashem archives.

As far as Mengele is concerned, it took the efforts of three govern-

ments to find his body and they certainly had far more ample resources than Mr. Wiesenthal. In addition, it is important to note that it was Mr. Wiesenthal who for years focused public attention on the notorious "Angel of Death" and thereby helped create the climate which led to the ultimately successful efforts to trace his body's whereabouts.

Mr. Less ends his letter with the assertion that "the survivors of the extermination of our people... have the right to request a fully-balanced statement from Mr. Wiesenthal of his Nazi-hunting activities during these many years." Once again, this is evidence of a lacuna in his information. Every January for the past more than 20 years, Mr. Wiesenthal has issued a detailed report on his activities during the previous year.

As the representative in Israel for the past six years of the Office of Special Investigations of the U.S. Justice Department, I believe that Simon Wiesenthal's record speaks for itself. No person has done more over the course of the past four decades to ensure that the issue of unprosecuted Nazi war criminals remains on the world agenda.

Efraim Zuroff

PRIVATE INVESTMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - According to economic adviser Haim Sadan (August 6), "only private investment can generate economic growth and jobs."

Haim Sadan could usefully take a break and come to England, and study the economic situation here.

ROAD MARKINGS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Good road markings are one of the preconditions for safe driving. The white line forbidding overtaking is surely one of the most vital in this respect, as it warns drivers that vision of oncoming traffic is restricted.

And yet, in most cases one does not see and cannot know beforehand that a white line is ahead. One is therefore caught by surprise when one gets to it while driving on the left lane, perhaps speeding in the course of legitimate overtaking. The options then are to ignore the line and drive on, as it is too late anyway, with all the dangers involved in that; or to brake sharply and swerve to the right, causing a shock to the drivers

behind and to the right of you and possibly a pile-up.

Strangely enough, although the law has foreseen this situation and provides marking no. D-5 (closely spaced interrupted lines) to precede the actual white line in order to give that warning, this marking is never applied on the roads.

The authorities, who are clearly at a loss what to do about the mounting rate of road accidents, would do well to apply at least those preventive measures which would ease the driver's lot, require only a little common sense, and cost next to nothing.

G. Keren

ARAB VILLAGERS

(Continued from Page One)
price 40 per cent of Tanra's population.

He was given a hero's welcome after explaining to the residents that they would have only to pay a symbolic price for the plots on which their houses stand.

Those who still own land in their former villages will be able to make a straight swap for the sites in Tanra. The remainder of the residents will be asked to pay 20 per cent of a revised valuation.

According to the villagers and Agriculture Ministry officials, the prices will be about IS 5,000 per plot.

Critics of the accord are already charging that this is another case of "giving away state land," following on the heels of the recent agreement that returned large portions of the Area 9 military training zone to Arab farmers in the Galilee.

But the ministry spokesman said that compromise was achieved with the full agreement of the Lands Administration's director-general.

"We concluded that this matter could not be resolved through the courts," said the spokesman.

"We had to find a solution for what is basically a humanitarian problem, and this is the formula we came up with."

"The minister has promised that if there are similar problems in other Arab villages, they will be dealt with in the same way," he added.

Darawshe described the agreement as a turning point in relations between the state and its Arab citizens.

"This is the second decision after the Area Nine agreement which benefits Israeli Arabs. In terms of helping to improve Jewish-Arab relations, however, it is for the good of all," he said.

"For the past year we had been living in fear of the sound of bulldozers. It put us all under a terrible strain," said Ibrahim Bakat'el, chairman of the now defunct Tanra refugees action committee.

"We don't know why the authorities, after leaving us alone for 35 years, suddenly decided we had no right to be living here."

"Now, thankfully, it is all over and we can continue in the knowledge that the future for ourselves and our descendants is secure," he added.

PRAY FOR DEATH MOVEMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Your article about the Pray for Death Movement (August 15) was unfair to Christian broadcaster, Pat Robertson.

At no time has Dr. Robertson advocated that anyone's death should be the subject of a vengeful prayer. Indeed, his observation that elderly Supreme Court justices would soon be replaced bears no fair association to pastors who openly oppose government leaders with "prayer hit lists."

Instead, Pat Robertson is making a genuine effort to restore a standard of Judeo-Christian morality in all levels of American government, working through the political and judicial process with thousands of other concerned citizens.

What your story omits is that many of the quotes were provided by People for the American Way - a group which fiercely opposes the fundamentalist moral crusade to contain the wave of abortions, pornography and crime in the United States.

P. A. DARG,
CBN Correspondent

The article in question was written by Peter Pringle of the Observer News Service. - Ed. J.P.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - For many years, there has been some misunderstanding among the Jewish people of Poughkeepsie, N.Y. who never realized that I introduced more important resolutions in their behalf than any other member of Congress, Jew or gentile.

My Palestine Resolution of 1922 went through Congress and was signed by the president, which made it the law of the United States and helped to create the State of Israel.

Regarding the slaughter of six million Jews by Hitler's monstrous and diabolic extermination policy, it was FDR and his State Department that refused to approve my resolution calling on all nations, even those not involved in the war, to demand an immediate end to this horrible slaughter. FDR's White House secretary, who was Jewish, publicly stated that FDR would "not lift his finger or open his mouth" to stop this mass genocide. And I am still angry and will continue to be until I die.

HAMILTON FISH
(Member of Congress 1920-1945)
New York

JERUSALEM AND MONOTHEISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Commenting on the current slogan "Jerusalem as the cradle of the three monotheistic faiths," Ms. Ida Cohen Selavan (Letters - August 24) justly states the absurdity of designating Islam as "cradled" in Jerusalem. But the same consideration holds good for Judaism which arose with our father Abraham in Iraq and/or with the people of Israel in the Sinai desert. Jerusalem can be credited only with having been the cradle of Christianity - but Christianity is no monotheism.

YESHAYAHU LEIBOWITZ
Jerusalem

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WILD GUESS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - A most amazing statement appeared on the front page of your issue of August 13. Speaking at the public mourning for the Habad synagogue vandalism, Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Koltitz is quoted as stating that the recent spate of road deaths was related to the desecration of synagogues.

Besides the fact that the main suspects are not Jewish, unlike the drivers involved, Judaism is the most strict in not daring to proclaim unauthorized revelations or predictions in the name of God. A false prophet is put to death. As guarding human life is one of the most important *mitzvot*,

PRAYING ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - As a religious liberal, I cannot understand how the Moslem religious authorities (Wakf) with the cooperation of the Israeli government can continue to discriminate against Jews who wish to exercise their right of worship on the Temple Mount, something which is guaranteed by international law.

Since the Dome of the Rock and Al Aksa cover less than half the area of the Temple Mount, there ought to

superseding Shabbat, kashrut, etc., the simple cause of accidents is the sin of ignoring all measures which logically prevent them.

If one wants to wildly guess which wrong prompts which tragedy, there is no limit - throwing stones at buses, emptying garbage in the streets, smoking and excessive eating are just as likely candidates. If one simply states that all is interrelated, part of God's Oneness, why single out anything?

YAKOV FOGELMAN,
Director,
Tora Outreach Programme,
Jerusalem

TEMPLE MOUNT

be room somewhere for Jews to study and pray. After all, the Temple Mount was and still is the centre of all Jewish worship and not the Western Wall as some mistakenly believe.

It is also not generally known that until a few centuries ago, there was even a synagogue on the Temple Mount, a fact that many Orthodox rabbis today as well as others either do not know or seem to forget.

JOSHUA J. ADLER
Jerusalem

DRASTIC IMPROVEMENT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Is my critical sense deserting me, or has the quality of your paper improved drastically during the last year or two?

Suddenly, the paper is lively, incisive and professional. There are articles that analyse the political scene without much ideological baggage: there are articles which tackle economic issues without repeating in every second sentence that Israel should produce more; there are even

SOLOMON'S STABLES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - I was surprised to see Solomon's Stables termed an "underground Crusader structure" on the front page of your issue of August 15 ("Tehiya MKs spend peaceful half hour on Temple Mount").

The vaulted substructure popularly known as Solomon's Stables was built by King Herod the Great in the second half of the first century

ARAD SONG FESTIVAL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir, - Tens of thousands of people gathered in Arad for a marathon of Israeli songs. Dozens of choirs from all over the country (all of them amateurs) delighted the audiences with a non-stop selection of concerts during some 36 hours. Such effort surely deserve maximum support

articles that open a window on the Arab world.

Last, but not least, I learned this week why Golan wines are good. Apparently, it is not because some three acres on the Golan Heights receive two per cent more sunshine or one per cent less rain than the rest of Israel's vineyards, but because some people know more about wine-making than others.

Congratulations.
Haifa.
K. WEISER



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